

# the johns hopkins News-Letter

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## Pres. Daniels justifies administrative decisions

By SARAH Y. KIM  
Opinions Editor  
& MORGAN OME  
Editor-in-Chief

In an interview with *The News-Letter* on Thursday, April 26, University President Ronald J. Daniels discussed his views on the proposed campus police force; the University's response to sexual violence; resources for low-income students; and mental health.

### A private police force

On March 5, the University announced its intention to create its own private police force. Shortly after, Maryland legislators began debating a bill that would authorize the University to do so.

Following the proposal, the University received backlash from students who felt that they did not have sufficient input in the decision-making process.

Some community members oppose any form of increased policing on and around campus, but Daniels challenged this view.

"Ultimately that's something which I don't agree

with," he said. "I think we have a serious set of security issues within the City that have to be addressed."

On March 30, Maryland legislators decided that they would not support the bill in its current form. However, the University plans to conduct an interim study in order to update the bill to be voted on during the next legislative session.

Daniels reaffirmed his support for a private police force in the future and said that the interim study will allow for more community input. He added that the University would ensure that the private police force is well-trained and constitutional.

"We're confident that at the end of the process, that we'll be able to get a better framework in place that will address the concerns of the broad community with enhanced safety and security," Daniels said.

He also stated that he was surprised by the fact that some students and community members felt that their voices were not taken into consideration when the University

SEE DANIELS, PAGE A5



FILE PHOTO

University President Ronald J. Daniels has served in his role since 2009.

## What is student marijuana use like at Hopkins?

By MEAGAN PEOPLES  
News & Features Editor

As a growing number of states have moved to legalize marijuana in recent years, cannabis use has been increasingly destigmatized.

Many students use cannabis on campus despite the Hopkins Student Conduct Code prohibiting its use or sale.

*The News-Letter* spoke with five students who regularly use marijuana for various reasons. Three of these students also sell

products containing cannabis. Pseudonyms are used to identify these five students in order to protect their privacy.

### Mental health and marijuana

Dan, a graduate student, began smoking marijuana on a daily basis as an undergraduate. Dan said that cannabis has helped him deal with the rigorous academic environment at Hopkins, although he explained that this was not the main reason he started

to or continues to smoke.

"There are times when I'm very stressed, and weed will help take the edge off," he said.

Sarah, a freshman, also uses marijuana to combat stress. She acknowledged that she has smoked more frequently since coming to Hopkins, due to both increased academic pressure and increased access to cannabis.

"It is a pretty demanding environment," she said. "It is a social thing, but we all also [use it to] group-destress."

Interim Dean of Student Life Toni Blackwell acknowledged that life as a Hopkins student can be challenging. She explained, however, that she does not believe marijuana use is an appropriate way of coping.

"I know students talk about it being a high-stress environment at Hopkins," she said. "We are working on other ways to help students deal with their stress. I don't think using an illegal substance is the best way to do it."

Like Dan, Jeff is a

SEE MARIJUANA, PAGE A4

### Listen to sexual assault survivors

Co-Directors of the Sexual Assault Resource Unit criticize the University's delay in revoking Bill Cosby's honorary degree. **OPINIONS, PAGE A11**

### Studio North's Grand Premiere

Studio North, a student organization designed to facilitate filmmaking on campus, showcased several student-produced films at the Parkway Theatre last Wednesday. **ARTS, PAGE B5**

## ALUMNI WEEKEND 2018



COURTESY OF JAE CHOI

Alumni from all over the country returned to Homewood Campus last weekend to reconnect with old classmates. See our coverage on page A3.

## University revokes Bill Cosby's honorary degree

By VALERIE CHAVEZ  
Senior Staff Writer  
& DIVA PAREKH  
News & Features Editor

The University announced on Thursday, April 26 that it revoked the honorary degree awarded to actor and comedian Bill Cosby in 2004. Hopkins made the decision the same day that Cosby was convicted of three counts of aggravated indecent assault and sentenced to 10 years in prison for each count. Cosby was found guilty of drugging and sexually assaulting Andrea Constand in his suburban Philadelphia home in 2004.

This is the first time the University has revoked an honorary degree.

In an interview with *The News-Letter* last Thursday,

University President Ronald J. Daniels explained why Hopkins delayed rescinding the degree until now.

"A determination to revoke the honorary degree should proceed on the basis of an independent and fair process that was able to assess the allegations against Mr. Cosby," he said. "The decision of the jury today in Pennsylvania clearly meets that standard for a comprehensive and impartial process and, accordingly, the University's Board of Trustees has revoked the degree."

In the past few years, over 50 accusers have publicly come forward with allegations of sexual assault against Cosby, including Lili Bernard, a former actress on *The Cosby Show* whose

son attends Hopkins. Since 2015, Bernard has worked with the Sexual Assault Response Unit (SARU) to convince the University to revoke Cosby's honorary degree.

Cosby's first trial ended in a mistrial on June 17, 2017, when a deadlocked jury could not come to a decision after six days of court proceedings. For Bernard,

the results of the 2018 trial gave her a sense of hope.

"It was not just a restoration in my faith in humanity, but also in my faith in the legal system," she said. "What this verdict has shown is that the legal system, which is light-years behind modern culture, is finally catching up."

Bernard said that the

SEE COSBY, PAGE A7

## SAIS U.S.-Korea Institute closes due to lack of funds

By BRIANNA DANG  
For *The News-Letter*

The School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) announced that its U.S.-Korea Institute (USKI) will be closing on May 11 due to insufficient funding.

The Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) withdrew its financial support for the Institute following disagreements over staffing and operations. KIEP is a research institute funded by the South Korean government, which studies how global issues impact the Korean economy.

USKI, which is located in Washington, D.C., was founded in 2006 to foster Korea-related education, research and policy discourse within SAIS.

USKI Chairman Robert Gallucci said that KIEP provides just under 80 percent of USKI's budget. According to him, KIEP was dissatisfied because it did not believe USKI was thorough enough in reporting its finances and expenditures.

However, Gallucci believed the reports were

thorough, explaining that both the USKI director and assistant director had reviewed the reports sent to KIEP over the past five years.

"The Korean government, through KIEP, was asking for information and details, some of which were beyond the normal reporting requirement," Gallucci said.

Gallucci and SAIS Dean Vali Nasr received a request from KIEP to replace current USKI Director Jae H. Ku and Assistant Director Jenny Town. After USKI denied this request, KIEP withdrew its funding.

According to Gallucci, Nasr believed that there was no cause to replace Ku or Town, and he found the request unreasonable.

"The request was inconsistent with the normal requirements of a funder," he said. "They were in fact seeking to have influence over the operations... of the institute and its staffing, which was inappropriate."

Earlier this year, Nasr and Gallucci received a

SEE USKI, PAGE A4

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### A last word from the Chiefs



Sam Fossum and Rollin Hu reflect on what they learned during their year as Editors-in-Chief. **VOICES, PAGE A9**

## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Administration responds to student criticism of OIE

## SGA discusses future plans for fall referendum

By **DIVA PAREKH**  
News & Features Editor

Last week, *The News-Letter* published an article titled "On their own," which shared the stories of eight survivors of sexual violence and their experience with the University's reporting process through the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE). In the same week, *The News-Letter* also wrote an editorial criticizing the OIE's handling of reports of sexual violence.

On Monday, *The News-Letter* spoke with Provost Sunil Kumar, Vice Provost for Institutional Equity Kimberly Hewitt, Title IX Coordinator Joy Gaslevic and Vice President for Communications Susan Ridge. They responded to the aforementioned articles.

Kumar noted that OIE is one of the offices that reports to the Provost's Office. He emphasized OIE's personal importance to him.

"OIE is a critical function in the University, and it's important for us to continue to evaluate it, shine a light on it," he said. "The stories of each of those students, every student, matters a great deal to me personally and to the leadership of the University. Giving voice to them is an important thing."

In response to students' concerns about OIE transparency, Kumar said that the Office intends to release its first annual report in the fall. The report will contain statistics about the duration of each case reported to the OIE, how many cases are resolved within 60 days, what type of resolution occurs and what actions are taken to resolve the case. These actions may include

suspensions, expulsions or no contact orders.

Kumar added that the University made the decision to release an annual OIE report at the same time that the conversation about a private Hopkins police force began.

"We said if we were going to go down that path, we would need OIE reports to be publicly released in addition to our annual Security and Fire Safety Report. Because we wanted to build that accountability," he said.

He explained that the Office has recently undergone staffing changes. Hewitt was hired in the spring of 2017 and has only been in her role for a year, while Kumar and Gaslevic were hired in the summer of 2016 and have been at the University for two years.

According to Kumar, the rest of the staff has been at the Office for around the same amount of time. In the past two years, the OIE has grown from seven people to 13, with the newest investigator starting next Monday.

Kumar addressed the possibility of increasing the number of staff members at OIE.

"If timely resolution requires more staff, we are more than willing to go down that path," he said. "One thing I'd point out is that sometimes it's not just about the staff. Having four investigators on the same case doesn't necessarily end the case quicker, because of the delicate balance between timeliness of resolution and thoroughness of resolution."

Hewitt agreed, adding that OIE's expenditures have increased by over 60 percent. She said these expenditures include funding for the OIE



FILE PHOTO

The OIE handles cases of discrimination, harassment and misconduct.

itself, as well as instances when the OIE needs to consult outside counsel, such as a law firm, for help on a case.

According to Gaslevic, all new OIE staff must go through the Association for Title IX Coordinators' Level One and Level Two investigator training programs. She said that OIE holds additional training sessions at least once a year to reiterate the material from the initial training.

At least once every other month, Gaslevic said, OIE staff meets with outside partners, such as the Office of Student Life case managers or Counseling Center staff, to listen to their feedback, which they use to improve the OIE process.

Hewitt added that one of the primary aspects of the reporting process that OIE can control and has been focusing on is how people interact with its staff and how people feel about the reporting experience.

Gaslevic then responded to some students' concerns that the Office is located on the Homewood Campus but serves all nine academic divisions of the University.

"Our investigators are

very flexible in where they can meet people," she said. "We do a lot of outreach, and we're very aware that we serve all nine academic divisions."

She also addressed concerns about the effective implementation of OIE sanctions, such as no contact orders, by other on-campus offices.

"Ultimately, we have the same Title IX responsibility in every case: to stop the conduct; prevent its recurrence; and address its effects," Gaslevic said. "We have that same responsibility in sanctions issued as well."

According to Kumar, in instances when a faculty member is found responsible for sexual misconduct, the Dean's offices can initiate faculty misconduct procedures although OIE cannot.

Hewitt added that OIE intends to think critically about how to improve.

"The process of investigation requires time," she said. "Part of that is inherent in the nature of the work, so we must find the balance between the time required with how many investigators would make sense given our caseload."

By **RUDY MALCOM**  
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) held their final meeting of the 2017-2018 academic year on Tuesday in Charles Commons. At the meeting, SGA passed their 40th piece of legislation, which is double the combined number of bills passed in the past two years. Members of the SGA also gave their final reports.

SGA voted to pass the Powers and Authorities Resolution. Executive Vice President AJ Tsang, who authored the legislation, explained that the resolution would allow SGA to expand its influence in University decisions.

In the legislation, Tsang calls for shared governance between SGA and administrators and advocates for the incorporation of young trustees and alumni who have graduated no more than three years ago into the Board of Trustees.

Sophomore Class Senator Dean Chien believes that SGA relies too heavily on maintaining a friendly relationship with the departments that financially support them. Chien voiced his

support for the stipulation of the Powers and Authorities resolution that requires administrators to meet with specific SGA committees.

"This resolution would be an important step towards increasing our role on campus and advocating better for students' rights," he said.

The SGA confirmed the appointment of sophomore Ivan Zhang to the Judiciary. The judicial branch is responsible for interpreting and enforcing the SGA's constitution and by-laws. Zhang, who previously worked on the Undergraduate Academic Ethics Board, plans to improve communication between the Judiciary and SGA and raise awareness of the Judiciary as a resource for conflict adjudication to the student body.

SGA approved all eight nominations to the Ethics Board. Director of Student Conduct Dana Broadnax gave introductory remarks.

SGA also passed the Indigenous Recognition Resolution. This resolution finds that Hopkins has failed to cultivate an inclusive environment for Native-American students on campus and encourages the administration to redesignate Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples' Day on Homewood Campus. Other universities have passed similar resolutions. The resolution also demands that the administration officially recognize the Maryland tribes that first owned and occupied the land on which the University was built.

Senior Class Senator Joshua Bertalotto hopes that October 8, 2018 will be the first Indigenous Peoples' Day.

SGA also passed the Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Guatemala Funding Act, which first went to the floor a month ago. This bill

delegates SGA's remaining funds to the EWB, who will use these funds to return to Chicorral, Guatemala, where they plan to implement an improved water system.

Tsang then presented on the fall referendum, which will encompass multiple issues, such as covered grades, the tobacco policy, increasing the number of class senators from six to 10 and adding an activities fee to students' tuition to increase funding for student groups.

The petition to have a referendum will be open on Hopkins Groups during the summer and will require 900 signatures to pass. Voting on the referendum would happen in the fall over a three-week period, from the first day of classes in August to the middle of September. For the referendum to be successful, the number of votes in favor of an issue must outweigh the number of votes opposed to that issue.

Additionally, there must be at least 2000 votes in favor of a question.

Freshman Class Senator Aspen Williams summarized the achievements of the Civic Engagement Committee this year. She mentioned the Civic En-

gagement Committee's involvement with the March for our Lives and the rally against the private police force.

Freshman Class President Sam Schatmeyer addressed his plans for the coming year, given the imminence of the 2018 midterm elections.

"We need to be active in getting people... not only registered to vote, but super pumped up about voting and engaged on this campus and leaving C-level and coming out and making their political viewpoints heard, no matter what," he said. "2018 is definitely going to require change and the voices of young people."

Junior Class President Ash Panakam discussed her meetings with Toni Blackwell, the senior associate dean of students and the interim dean of student life, and Provost Kumar.

Panakam explained that the mindfulness meditation app, Calm, is popular among students. The administration is working on funding the app in its second year, as its free trial will end soon. This project may cost upward of \$8,000.

According to Panakam, Blackwell said that many faculty members are unsure of how to respond correctly to students who they are concerned about. Panakam announced the implementation of the Student Distress Faculty Resource guide. This guide will be given to all faculty to clarify their role in students' mental health.

Panakam noted that A Place to Talk, a peer listening group for the Hopkins community, will be given their own space in the library. Panakam hopes that counselors will eventually be stationed there.

## University will award six honorary degrees in 2018

By **ALYSSA WOODEN**  
Managing Editor

The University's six honorary degree recipients for this year include a co-owner of the Baltimore Orioles, an investment firm president, a prize-winning neuroscientist and a human rights lawyer. The list of recipients was announced on April 25, and the honorary degrees will be awarded at commencement on May 24.

**David H. Bernstein** graduated from the Krieger School of Arts & Sciences in 1957 with a degree in Political Science and is currently a trustee emeritus of the University. He became president in 1966 of the Baltimore-based Samuel Meisel and Company, which provided duty-free products to several east coast cities.

Bernstein expanded the company into Duty Free International, which operated duty-free retail stores along U.S. borders and in

international airports. He is currently one of the owners of the Baltimore Orioles and has supported many University operations, including scholarships and endowed professorships.

**Melody Hobson** became the president of Chicago-based investment firm Ariel Investments nine years after graduating from Princeton University. Ariel Investments is one of the largest African-American owned investment companies in the country, with over \$13 billion in assets.

Hobson currently serves on the board of directors for several organizations, including Estée Lauder Companies Inc., the Starbucks Corporation, JPMorgan Chase & Co. and the Chicago Public Education Fund. She is married to George Lucas, another one of the University's 2018 honorary degree recipients.

**George Lucas** is the creator of the *Star Wars* and *In-*

*diana Jones* film franchises as well as the founder of Lucasfilm, which is credited with developing many special effects and computer animation technologies.

After graduating from the University of Southern California, Lucas began writing, directing and editing several smaller films before beginning to work on *Star Wars*. The space adventure was originally turned down by all except one studio but went on to become the highest-grossing film of all time.

Lucas sold Lucasfilm to The Walt Disney Company in 2012 and founded the George Lucas Educational Foundation in 1991.

**Bishop Douglas Miles** is a Hopkins alum and one of the co-founders of the Black Student Union. A native Baltimorean, Miles was an activist during the Civil Rights Movement and advocated for the University to hire more black faculty.

In 1992 he founded the Koinonia Baptist Church in Baltimore, of which he is the pastor, and he currently serves as co-chair of the community improvement organization Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development. Miles continues to be involved in University programs such as BLocal and HopkinsLocal.

**Solomon H. Snyder** became the University's youngest full professor in 1966 after joining Hopkins

as an assistant resident in Psychiatry the year before.

He later founded the Department of Neuroscience at the School of Medicine and is known for his research on receptors of neurotransmitters and psychoactive drugs. His research has been used in the development of anti-psychotic medications.

Currently a distinguished service professor of Neuroscience, Pharmacology and Psychiatry, Snyder has won numerous awards for his work, including the National Medal of Science.

**Bryan A. Stevenson**, this year's commencement speaker, is a founder and director of the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI), which provides legal representation to prisoners who may have been wrongfully convicted.

Stevenson, who faced segregation and racism during his childhood, went on to attend Harvard Law School and founded the EJI in 1995 with the help of a MacArthur "Genius Grant" Fellowship. Stevenson has advocated against overly harsh punishments against children who have committed crimes, and as of 2016 EJI has saved 125 men from the death penalty.

An active public speaker, Stevenson has also developed a memorial commemorating lynching victims, created a museum and published a memoir titled *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*.



James Duncan Davidson/CC BY-SA 3.0  
Stevenson is the founder and director of the Equal Justice Initiative.

# Reddit co-founder speaks to student entrepreneurs

By JASON NGUYEN  
For *The News-Letter*

Alexis Ohanian, co-founder of the social news website Reddit and the venture capital firm Initialized Capital, spoke at an event hosted by Johns Hopkins Technology Ventures (JHTV) on Sunday. This event, hosted in Hodson 110, kicked off Alumni Weekend 2018 and was open to alumni, students and faculty.

Ohanian discussed his experiences struggling to start a business, his successes over the years and insight into what makes a startup work. He also signed copies of his best-selling book *Without Their Permission: The Story of Reddit and a Blueprint for How to Change the World*.

University President Ronald J. Daniels introduced the event. He explained that JHTV has put into place a system of support to aid our community's young creators and entrepreneurs in transforming their visions into reality. JHTV provides financial support to full-time undergraduate and graduate entrepreneurs through Spark Grants, awards which range between \$500 and \$1000.

As a child, Ohanian became interested in technology because of the constant upgrades he had to make on his desktop computer to play a video game. Ohanian would get his computer upgraded at a local shop until he eventually realized he was paying for a service he could do on his own.

"This device is something I had power over. I could buy individual parts, install and take other parts out. Very quickly, I looked at the games I was playing and saw that these were things I could build too," Ohanian said. "That's what got me into programming."

At 15 years old, Ohanian began emailing small non-profits asking if he could help build their websites.

"No one knew I was this dorky kid in my parents' house in Columbia. They just knew I was someone who had a skill they didn't have," he said.

Ohanian relayed advice to young entrepreneurs during the event, urging students to follow their passions. He spoke about how he used to think he would become a lawyer. However, after one LSAT prep class he realized it wasn't something he enjoyed.

The presentation also touched on his failures in entrepreneurship. Ohanian reflected on the early days of his first business startup called "My Mobile Menu," an app intended to track meals and suggest future places to eat.

He ultimately decided to drop the project.

"There is so much uncertainty. Starting a company sucks," Ohanian said. "It is really hard and I'm thrilled that it's glamorized and everyone wants to do it. But know it's hard," Ohanian

said.

Despite being his first failure, Ohanian learned from the project. Months later, alongside co-founder Steve Huffman, Ohanian created what is now the sixth most visited website globally: Reddit.com.

Ohanian also discussed how importance agreeability was when starting the website.

"Be willing to do the work, to be helpful and go into every meeting with the mindset of what can I do for this person," he said.

Ohanian was named on the Forbes 30 Under 30 list and has also been dubbed "Mayor of the Internet."

Ohanian also touched on Initialized Capital, a venture capital firm that he co-founded. During his time with the company, he has listened to many business pitches. To Ohanian, the founding members of a company are the cornerstone of any startup.

"If a founder can't explain what they're building and why concisely, then they haven't gotten it figured out themselves yet," he said.

In addition to these skills, Ohanian said that the best way to be successful is to recognize personal strengths and weaknesses. He said that in order to improve these weaknesses, people have to work internally to improve.

He said that his wife, Serena Williams, the professional tennis player, has helped him understand this.

"I've got a good person to talk to about wanting to be the best," Ohanian said. "She's incredibly good at understanding the stuff she's very good at and the stuff that she isn't, and delegating the stuff that she isn't. But you can't delegate winning grand slams, so then it's just drilling down and training the things where there is any weakness."

He added that although he is not in the position to speak for his wife, he thinks that if she were to play the way people tell her and not play her own way, she would not be so successful.

His final advice to the crowd was for the students, and he encouraged them to think of college as the time to try new things.

"It's an amazing time to learn and learn by building," he said.

Ohanian believes that the future is very bright, and entrepreneurship is currently on an upward trend.

"I strongly believe that your generation is the first generation to label themselves not just as receivers, but also creators," he said.

Freshman Eric Rong was very impressed by how approachable Ohanian was during the book signing. He realized that good communication skills are an essential tool for helping entrepreneurs in the business world.

"I think the ability to communicate effectively with charisma and with logic makes for a good entrepreneur," Rong said.

# University hosts Alumni Weekend celebration

By JAE CHOI  
For *The News-Letter*

The Hopkins Alumni Association hosted Alumni Weekend from April 26 to 29. Alumni returned to Homewood Campus to participate in a variety of social, cultural and academic events, which were open to both alumni and current students.

The University held tours of school facilities throughout Baltimore, such as the Medical Campus in East Baltimore and the Film and Media Studies Centre in Station North; organized lectures from faculty and guest speakers; and provided entertainment in the form of the Homecoming Lacrosse Game, concerts, tent parties and meals.

Various student groups also hosted their own events throughout the weekend to provide alumni with opportunities not only to reconnect with each other, but also to connect with current Hopkins students.

Senior Associate Director of the Homewood Reunion Program Pat Conklin said that over 7,500 alumni and their guests attended the 2018 Alumni Weekend. According to her, both alumni and current students enjoy learning more about each other's experiences at Hopkins.

"Our goal is to engage our alumni; bring them back to the University; have them reconnect with their friends and classmates; learn about the new things that are happening on campus; and give them the opportunity to meet with students," Conklin said.

The President and Deans' Breakfast, which took place on Saturday morning in the Glass Pavilion, brought together administrators, alumni and students to celebrate the University's progress and alumni achievements.

University President Ronald J. Daniels, James B. Knapp Dean of the Krieger School of Arts & Sciences Beverly Wendland and Benjamin T. Rome Dean of the Whiting School of Engineering Ed Schlesinger discussed the future of the school at the Breakfast.

Daniels shared his appreciation for the \$75 million donation that William H. Miller, an investor and Hopkins alumnus, made to the Philosophy department. According to Daniels, this donation spoke to the importance of critical thinking at Hopkins, especially at a time when support for the humanities is declining at many of the University's peer institutions.

"Grappling with big ideas matters," he said. "In a world where we're contending with the ethical impacts of genetic engineering, the challenges of economic and political upheaval and the interconnectedness of the built and natural environment, critical inquiry — the lifeblood of our University — is more vital than ever."

He asserted that though Hopkins may have changed since many of the alumni were students, the University's core commitment to ideas that make an impact remained strong.

Daniels then discussed

recent physical changes to the Homewood Campus, highlighting the new approach to teaching and learning in education today.

"New buildings, like the Brody Learning Commons, Gilman Hall's light-filled atrium and the flexible cross-disciplinary lab spaces in the Undergraduate Teaching Labs [are] all explicitly designed for today's digital and collaborative approaches to learning," he said.

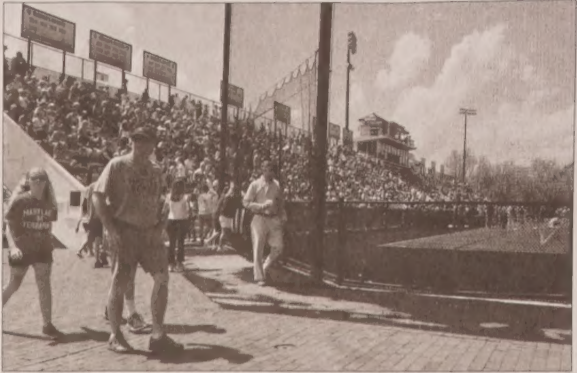
Shortly after Daniels' remarks, Wendland and Schlesinger presented honorary awards to two alumni. They recognized Arthur Eisenberg, Class of 1968, for his work as the legal director of the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU); and Joseph Pistrutto, Class of 1979, for his achievements as a site reliability engineering director for Google and for his contributions to the Alumni Association.

In an interview with *The News-Letter*, Eisenberg discussed how he chose his career path and advised students to take advantage of unanticipated circumstances.

"Life takes you in many different ways," he said. "I was in graduate school. I was at an anti-war rally, protesting the Vietnam War, and I found myself standing next to a lawyer from the NYCLU. We had a conversation, and one thing led to another, and I left graduate school and went to work for the NYCLU."

In addition to formal events and lectures, the Alumni Association also hosted several social events such as The Hullabalooza, a tent party which took place Saturday night in a tent on the Decker Quad. The party featured live music and refreshments and aimed to give alumni the opportunity to reconnect with each other and with current students.

Junior Anthony Garay has been part of Alumni Student Ambassadors (ASA) for three years. ASA is comprised of student volunteers who help organize Alumni Weekend. He said that the Hullabalooza was his favorite part of Alumni Weekend because of the diverse range of alumni



EDA INCEKARA/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Many alums attended the home game against the University of Maryland.

present. According to him, the oldest graduating class represented was the Class of 1938.

Garay appreciated being able to connect with alumni who were at Hopkins at different moments in history.

"At Hullabalooza, you can see people all the way from in their 70s to people in their 20s and 30s dancing the night away. You see the whole family that is Hopkins," he said. "Through the generations, through the years, you have people who were here when there weren't women at Hopkins, and you have people here who saw MLK [Martin Luther King Jr.] or Nelson Mandela come to Shriver."

Shijit Dasgupta, Class of 2013, reflected on his time as a Hopkins undergraduate, focusing on his experiences as a part of the Mechanical Engineering department.

Dasgupta discussed the need for Hopkins to provide a student center in order to alleviate the pressure on students that came from their academics.

"We didn't really have a student union, and we still don't from what I've heard," he said. "Part of [the responsibility] is on the student to relax, but also on the University to create environments to relax."

According to Dasgupta, the University's resources for connecting alumni to each other and to current students could be improved. Though the University was facilitating some interaction, he said, the alumni outreach process could be made much easier and efficient.

Junior ASA member Kyla Persky added that students and alumni tend to be unaware of the already existing resources to facilitate outreach.

"If you know where to look, the opportunities to network and connect with alumni are abundant. All you have to do is ask," she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "That being said, there is a bit of a learning curve to accessing these resources, which is precisely what ASA is hoping to eliminate."

Sophomore Scotty McCaugh, who joined ASA so that he could better connect with alumni, agreed.

"Alumni are always happy to help, so a lot of this comes down to the individual, to if you're willing to call them up and see if they can help you in some way," he said.

Some alumni also expressed concerns about challenges faced by current students, such as harassment.

Class of 1961 alumna Judith Berger's family has been associated with Hopkins for the past century: Her brother, cousin, two nephews, two uncles and aunt all attended the University. She said, however, that neither she nor her family members had ever experienced the kind of problems faced by students today.

"It's dangerous," Berger said. "I never experienced harassment. I never experienced that kind of anxiety, and I was on campus everyday for four years from 1957 to 1961."

Dasgupta emphasized the importance of staying connected to the person he was as an undergraduate.

"When you graduate, you get to know the real world, and it's really important to get in touch with your undergrad self," Dasgupta said. "It's really a free period of your life where the external pressures of life don't hit you."

## Sam's GOES BLUE for Autism Awareness



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Monday-Friday 7-3 | Saturday & Sunday 9-5



# Student marijuana users smoke on campus, despite University policies

MARIJUANA, FROM A1

graduate student who also began smoking as an undergraduate, but he uses cannabis to treat his chronic migraines and epilepsy. Specifically, Jeff uses cannabidiol (CBD), which does not have a psychoactive component.

This means that it does not alter brain function. However, CBD has been shown to have anti-anxiety, appetite-inducing and pain-relieving effects, according to a 2015 study from *Neurotherapeutics*.

Jeff noted that while CBD does not entirely alleviate his symptoms, it does make them more manageable.

"For migraines, it's not like a cure — it's more like a bandaid," he said. "Taking CBD is not going to magically make it go away, but it will reduce the pain so that I can actually deal with it."

Kelly, a senior, began using cannabis to cope with anxiety and depression. However, he no longer believes that it has a positive effect on his mental health.

"I think that's how I started using more regularly," he said. "It was me self-medicating, but eventually I kind of moved out of that habit and moved to a more recreational, healthier way of using."

Jeff, Dan and Kelly all sell marijuana-based products around the Hopkins campus. They said that the largest portion of their consumer base is made up of Hopkins undergraduates.

"This is not an endeavor to make a profit," Dan said. "It's sort of just to make sure we can offset our own weed costs."

**"We don't condone the use of illegal substances."**

— TONI BLACKWELL, INTERIM DEAN OF STUDENT LIFE

pling and study designs."

Rick, a senior who has been smoking since his junior year of high school, believes that it would be naïve to think that cannabis use has no effect on academic outcome. After struggling with school, Rick decided to quit smoking.

"I felt like if I was not getting good grades, I couldn't justify smoking weed every night," he said.

**How state and federal laws affect Hopkins policy**

Since 1996, 30 states and Washington, D.C. have legalized marijuana in some form. Eight states and D.C. have legalized recreational marijuana.

In 2014, Maryland legalized medical marijuana. However, it only began awarding preliminary licenses to grow and sell marijuana last year. The first dispensaries opened last December.

Marijuana is illegal under federal law due to the Controlled Substances Act (CSA). The CSA was passed in 1970 and stipulates that the manufacture, importation, distribution

and possession of certain substances such as marijuana should be regulated by the U.S. government.

The CSA does not recognize a distinction between medical and recreational use of cannabis and, according to Interim Dean of Student Life Toni Blackwell, neither does University policy. Because Hopkins currently receives federal funding, the administration cannot condone the use of medical marijuana.

"If students were caught using marijuana in that way, they would have to go through the conduct process, because the federal government does not acknowledge that use of marijuana," Blackwell said.

Blackwell explained that should a student get caught using or selling marijuana, it is possible that the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) may be involved in the following proceedings.

"When the marijuana is confiscated, our campus security works with the Baltimore Police," she said. "They actually take the marijuana and depending, I believe, on the amount, [BPD officers] are the ones who take it into possession and decide next steps."

**Student smokers and security**

Kelly said that when he and his friends would

smoke in the dorms, his residential advisor (RA) would turn a blind eye.

"I was told later by someone who was an RA that the RAs would smell it, that we weren't as discrete as we thought we were," he said. "But we never got in trouble for it."

Sarah, who has smoked in the dorms, said that she would rather be caught smoking off campus or by a campus security guard than by an RA.

"It's still not really okay if a Hop Cop sees you, but it's easier to be let off with a warning," she said.

Rick was once caught smoking by a Hopkins security guard but did not face any consequences.

"He took down our names, but he never actually wrote us up," he said. "I never heard anything about it after."

He added that while he appreciates how lenient the University has been in handling his own case, he does not believe the administration should ignore instances in which students are caught smoking.

"The administration shouldn't just turn a blind eye. That would be irresponsible," he said.

**Addressing drug use on campus**

The University's Drug, Alcohol, and Firearms



PUBLIC DOMAIN

The possession of less than 10 grams of marijuana is decriminalized in Md.

Policies for Students states that its primary response to issues of alcohol and drug abuse is through education, intervention and treatment efforts.

Hopkins, according to Blackwell, is working to show students the harmful consequences of drug and alcohol use. Last fall, the University launched a campaign called Work Hard/Play Smart to spread information about the neurological effects of substance abuse and dispel myths that drugs or alcohol can alleviate stress.

"Particularly for Hopkins students, we want to talk to them about what using these substances does to your body and your brain," Blackwell said. "When you're educated about what you're putting into your body, you can

make better decisions."

Blackwell went on to explain why Hopkins uses different campaigns to address alcohol and marijuana use.

"The difference with the marijuana piece is that it's an illegal substance," she said. "We don't condone the use of illegal substances."

While Sarah acknowledges that the University's campaigns focus on the negative effects of marijuana use, she believes that the student body generally tend to have a neutral attitude towards people who use marijuana.

"I haven't encountered anyone who's horrifically opposed to marijuana use. Overall, I know people who don't smoke, but they're fine with other people smoking," she said. "I think Hopkins definitely does push the idea that marijuana is bad."

## Students and administrators reflect on the closure of USKI

SAIS, FROM A1

letter stating that the Korean government would be terminating its support for USKI and withdrawing KIEP's funding from the Institute. Nasr consequently determined that USKI did not have enough funding to stay open.

For Gallucci explained USKI's closing especially unfortunate given the recent summit between North and South Korea and between U.S. President Donald J. Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un.

"I found this outcome to be unfortunate and magnificently poorly timed," he said.

Town agreed, adding that USKI was an active player in D.C. and had a large impact on its policy community. At the time of the Institute's creation, it was one of two institutions focused on U.S.-Korean policy. She said that the second institution, the Korea Economic Institute, was an extension of the Korean government,

which made USKI unconventional for its independence from the Korean government.

Town explained that Korean policy issues were important to her and Ku, stating that they were looking forward to seeing an increase in attention and importance given to the topic in policy circles because of USKI's work. Over the years, she said, she and Ku helped the institution grow to make an impact on the Korea policy community and in policy debates.

Since then, Town said, USKI has helped other institutions become more involved and interested in Korean policy.

"We were elevating the discussion and making sure that Korea was a bigger player and that it was a more prominent issue in Washington [D.C.] during the time," Town said.

Town explained that the Institute had a three-part mission: education, research and outreach.

She compared USKI to a research institution or a think tank with an academic focus.

USKI also sponsored the Korea Studies Program at SAIS. Though the Institute did not run the program, it provided funding for professors' salaries, student fellowships and programming for Korea Studies students.

The second pillar of USKI's mission was outreach, which Town said involved public events revolving around key issues on the U.S.-Korea agenda. She listed global issues that the Institute discussed, for instance when South Korea hosted the G20 Summit.

Inhyok Kwon, a SAIS student with a Korea Studies concentration, was a 2016-2017 USKI student fellow. He wrote in an email to *The News-Letter* that he was surprised by the Institute's closure and was unaware of the news until recently.

"[USKI] helped form a discourse about Korea-related issues among students, scholars, practitioners and policy makers in D.C.," Kwon wrote.

Kwon participated in USKI's monthly meetings because of his interest in international policy, particularly

Northeast Asian politics. He wanted to learn more about neighboring countries' perspectives and interests on Korea-related issues. According to him, D.C.-based think tanks could help fill the gap USKI's closure would leave in the discussion about U.S.-Korean politics.

Town explained that the third pillar that USKI focused on was research. According to her, the Institute was best known for providing greater analysis on North Korean policies and North Korea's relationship with the U.S., and it held numerous public and private roundtable events to provide analysis of policies.

Town believed that USKI was successful in carrying out its three intended missions.

"[Korea] is an important player," she said. "This is an important geopolitical situation. The importance now is greater than it has been in the past, and the attention to this issue is even greater than it ever has been."

Town emphasized the importance of USKI in D.C. through its impact on the policy community and support of the Korea Studies Program at SAIS.

According to Town, a lot of young people in Washington, D.C. working on Korea Studies began as USKI interns.

Shan Wu, a SAIS Korea Studies student and 2016-2017 USKI student fellow, expressed her concern over the possible effects of the Institute's closure on both the policy community and on relations between Korea and the U.S.

"The purpose of it is

to promote constructive U.S.-Korea relations, and the closing of it and withdrawal of the funding for it will have complications for future development in the relationship," Wu said.

In an email to *The News-Letter*, Jaehan Park, a PhD candidate in Japan/Asia studies at SAIS, addressed differing explanations for the closure of the Institute.

"Generally speaking, progressive newspapers find the USKI's purported financial problems liable to its closure, whereas their conservative counterparts are pointing to alleged political interference from the high offices," Park wrote.

Park noted that 38 North, USKI's signature publication, has been widely read by students, government officials and independent analysts across the Pacific. According to him, it has become a staple for those interested in inter-Korean affairs.

In addition to 38 North, Park listed USKI's sponsorship of the SAIS Korean Student Association (KSA), Korea Club and the Sejong Society as examples of the Institute's support for Korea-based student organizations.

According to Gallucci, there is little hope that the Institute will be reestablished following its closure.

"The metaphor might be Humpty Dumpty," Gallucci said. "I think that the staff, both senior staff and others in the Institute, must look out for their own futures, and they are trying to make plans to go off and do other things. I don't believe that there's a way to put Humpty Dumpty back together again."



BANYAN TREE / CC BY-SA 3.0

The South Korean government withdrew its funding from the U.S.-Korea Institute at SAIS.

# The Charles Village Pub closes after grease fire

By **EMILY MCDONALD**  
News & Features Editor

The Charles Village Pub (CVP), a local bar on St. Paul Street, has been closed indefinitely following a grease fire early Tuesday morning. The bar first opened in 1985.

Alex Leach has been a resident of Charles Village for 18 years and has been a longtime patron of CVP. He created a GoFundMe campaign in order to raise \$5,000 for the employees who will be out of work while the bar is being cleaned and repaired.

Leach said that the fire made him realize that he may have underappreciated the bar in the past.

"We take so much for granted. You never think that the place you eat lunch at every day would suddenly have a fire and be closed indefinitely," he said.

Leach explained that he decided to fundraise for the employees of CVP because

of the many different expenses that they will face while the bar is under repair.

"People have kids. People have mortgages. People have rent, and no one's able to pay or bear responsibility when the money tap is turned off," he said.

To him, the employees of CVP are a crucial part of the bar's atmosphere.

"The people behind the bar are the ones that make it so special, that make you feel at home," he said. "Anyone can go there and feel safe. It's always been... almost like a home for wayward souls."

He explained that the bar has been an important part of Baltimore for many generations. He remembered his father bringing him there when he was a child, and the bar was the only place open during a blizzard.

"I have memories of my dad pulling me down 10 or 20 blocks on a sled," Leach said. "That was one of the only places that would let

my tiny six-year-old self sit there on a bar stool and give me french fries."

Senior Jose Velez, who frequents CVP, said that he was surprised to hear about the fire and was glad that no one was injured.

"I was completely shocked to find out that a fire occurred in CVP," he wrote to *The News-Letter*. "The first thing that came to my mind, other than the workers at CVP... was a friend of mine that I know that lives right above. I texted him right away to see if he was okay, and he told me he was, so I was very relieved to hear that."

Senior Lilly Barany also regularly visited CVP. She explained that she was shocked when she heard about the fire.

"My heart dropped. I wrote what happened in my group chat with eight of my closest friends and they were like 'oh my god, are you sure,' and ran over there

and sent us a picture in the group chat of the sign that says that it's closed because of the fire," she said.

Velez commended the efforts of the Baltimore Fire Department in keeping the fire from spreading.

"I live in the building right in front of it and never found out about it except by word of mouth from other friends, so I'm happy that the workers in CVP and the Baltimore Fire Department prevented the fire from spreading and other potential damages it could have caused," he wrote.

Velez shared that he will miss the bar while it is undergoing repairs.

"I will miss CVP since it was a cool, hidden, and almost disguised bar from the rest of the food places around it," he wrote. "I wish the workers the best, and encourage everyone that had a great time there to donate."

*Meagan Peoples and Katy Wilner contributed reporting.*

# Daniels addresses sexual violence, mental health

DANIELS, FROM A1

proposed the bill. He believes that students had significant impact on the proposed legislation.

"Although the time period was compressed, students, as well as other community members, had a very significant voice in shaping how we approached this issue," Daniels said.

Some community members oppose any form of increased police force on and around campus, but Daniels challenged this view.

"Ultimately that's something which I don't agree with," he said. "I think we have a serious set of security issues within the city that have to be addressed."

He noted that while 2018 began with a drop in violent crime in Baltimore, crime rates noticeably increased again in April.

"The calls have started up again from parents, from faculty and from students who are saying where is that? Where is the legislation? And what are you going to do in wake of the delay in consideration of the legislation until next year?" he said.

## Addressing sexual violence on campus

Last week, *The News-Letter* published an article in which eight students shared their experiences of reporting sexual misconduct to the University's Office of Institutional Equity (OIE). Daniels said that while the University is working to enforce the guidelines it created in 2015, there is still room for improvement.

"We are not where we need to be. This is a work in progress," he said.

Since 2015, Daniels said that the staff of the Office has approximately doubled, and spending increased by 60 percent. He added from 2016 to 2017, the number of filed complaints increased by 92 percent and that the University is committed to providing more investigative resources.

Daniels stressed that though the majority of cases are resolved within a 60-day window, there are some cases that extend beyond that general time frame.

"We're anxious to reduce that time," he said. "But we're also insisting that this be done in a way that

is going to be rigorous, fair and defensible to the University community."

Though he believes it is important for open investigations to be resolved in a timely manner, Daniels also

underscored the importance of doing so thoroughly.

"The most important thing is that we do our best to avoid mistakes or errors in the handling of these complaints, particularly with an organization that is under such intense scrutiny from the University community," he said.

Daniels said that he is committed to working to better the process of reporting sexual misconduct to the University and that he takes the issue seriously.

"It's not that OIE is callous or disinterested, and it's not that we, as a University, are indifferent to the concerns about sexual assault. These are very serious concerns that we obviously take very seriously," he said.

## Accessibility for low-income students

In late March, *The News-Letter* published an article in which Residential Advisors (RAs) on financial aid reported that their out-of-pocket (OOP) costs, including tuition and room and board, have not decreased since they accepted their position. On the other hand, RAs who do not receive financial aid have seen a dramatic decrease in their overall OOP costs.

Daniels said that according to Vice Provost for Admissions and Financial Aid David Phillips, there is a review underway to address concerns about inequitable compensation for RAs.

He went on to talk about the American Talent Initiative (ATI), which the University joined in 2016. The ATI consists of various private and public institutions working to increase educational opportunities for students of lower socioeconomic background.



COURTESY OF JACOB TOOK

University President Ronald J. Daniels spoke with *The News-Letter* about student concerns.

Daniels said that the ATI is a significant initiative and noted that Hopkins was one of the earlier signatories. He also explained that the ATI does not determine how each individual institution provides more opportunities to low-income students.

"The ATI sets broad goals, but ultimately it falls to the institutions that are members of the ATI to actually undertake policies and changes in practice that will allow that University to achieve the goals it has set out for itself," he said.

Daniels also said that there has been a significant increase in financial aid at Hopkins.

"We have set a goal of increasing the number of students who are on PELL grants," he said. "In the last year, for instance, we have moved from 13 percent to 15 percent of JHU's 2018 freshman being eligible for PELL grant funding."

According to Daniels, 20 percent of the students in the Class of 2022 come from families whose income is under \$60,000 per year.

He also noted that the University has seen a record high in that 52 percent of the current freshman class receives a University grant. Daniels said that the average grant covers 60 percent of the total cost of attending Hopkins.

However, he added that Hopkins has more to do to assist low-income students.

"We've got to be more imaginative in how we reach out to students from low socioeconomic backgrounds and to deal with the so-called undermatching problem," he said. "Students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds don't tend to make their way to universities of the stature of Johns Hopkins. You have to find

easier pathways to bring them to the University."

## Mental health

In March 2016, Daniels convened the Task Force on Student Mental Health and Well-being, a group comprised of students, faculty and staff across the nine divisions of the University. The Task Force's job was to look into the mental health resources available to students, review research and make recommendations on how Hopkins can improve its services.

In March 2018, the Task Force released an official report outlining challenges that students face and detailing ways that the University can improve mental health on campus.

For Daniels, the report showed that there are many issues to address and that there is no singular solution.

"The problems, as we saw from the Task Force report, are very complex and not solved by a simple fix," he said.

He explained that increasing the mental health resources on campus requires a multifaceted approach. For example, Daniels said that Director of Athletics and Recreation Alanna Shanahan will be leading a new task force to address the physical wellness of the student body, since that is also tied to mental health. Daniels believes that a comprehensive university response entails multiple aspects.

"It requires increased awareness of mental health issues, reduced stigmatization, better services to students and, of course, better training for those people who are on the front lines with students experiencing mental health issues," he said.

“Good Luck on Exams! Remember, sleep and eating are essential to bring your best self to this time of year!”

**Dean Toni Blackwell**  
**Interim Dean of Student Life**

# Panelists discuss the MD gubernatorial election

By GIULIANA LEOTTA  
For *The News-Letter*

A panel of activists discussed the upcoming Baltimore gubernatorial elections at an event titled “Movement Power/Electoral Strategy: What’s at stake for Baltimore in the upcoming governor’s race?” this Wednesday at Red Emma’s. The talk featured journalist Marc Steiner and Associate Professor of Political Science and Africana Studies Lester Spence, as well as five other speakers.

Representatives from six organizations, including CASA in Action and the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), spoke at the event. CASA in Action is an organization that advocates for immigration rights, and ATU is a railway workers’ union.

Steiner and Spence discussed candidate accountability and the importance of organizing Democratic voters to ensure that progressive candidates win in the upcoming gubernatorial elections. Steiner views the Republican Party as a major threat to societal progress and civil rights.

“What we’re facing now is a huge danger to black people in America,” he said. “It’s a danger to our future, our environment, this Earth, our children, our grandchildren, if these people are allowed to hold seats and take control of everything.”

According to Steiner, many progressive voters are apathetic toward politics. To combat this, he called for citizens to organize and put pressure on progressive candidates to continue to uphold the values that got them elected.

Steiner believes that individual votes do make a difference and that the Democratic Party needs to be more organized.

“To say it doesn’t make any difference who votes how, in the Senate or House, is total bullshit. It does make a difference in people’s lives,” he said. “We have to think about what our strategy should be.”

Spence discussed voting as a primary method of nonviolent resistance, citing Malcolm X as an example.

“[Nonviolent revolution] requires the sophisticated, tactical use of voting,” he said. “We shouldn’t think about it as something that is deeply emotional or immoral but rather as something that is tactical. Voting can matter.”

Steiner also addressed other ways in which students can be politically engaged. He believes, for example, that the Hopkins student body was responsible for impeding the creation of the University’s proposed private police force earlier this spring.

“Students went to Annapolis,” he said. “They put pressure on political representatives.”

Baltimore county resident Dan Sparaco attended the event in support of gubernatorial candidate Benjamin Jealous. Sparaco was interested in hearing the panel’s opinions on Jealous.

“I was curious if there was any traction among people who have written off electoral politics,” he said. “Can they be re-engaged by Ben Jealous, or any candidate, because any candidate who can engage the disengaged can win any race.”

Sparaco believes politicians should reach out to people who do not vote instead of attempting to change the minds of people who are registered to vote for an opposing political party. He feels that party polarization makes it difficult to change these registered voters’ minds.

“It’s a lot harder to convince people who really like Larry Hogan to vote against him than it is to go find the millions of people who don’t vote at all, but who could be convinced to do so under the right circumstances,” he said.

Freshman Benjy Montegudo also attended the event and believes that Hopkins students should educate themselves about pressing issues in Baltimore today.

“We’re in our own special world,” he said. “It’s important to learn and educate yourself and participate in whatever way you can.”

# University hosts symposium on social justice

By DRAKE FOREMAN  
For *The News-Letter*

The Hopkins Urban Health Institute, in collaboration with the Office of the Provost, held its annual symposium on the social determinants of health at the East Baltimore campus this Monday. This year’s symposium focused on activism and social justice in the past 50 years.

The symposium included a panel on political and social activism in Baltimore. The speakers in the panel discussed ways in which people can engage with the community to improve the City through a greater focus on social justice.

Durre Smith, a Baltimore native and speaker on the panel, serves as the vice president of Tubman House, a grassroots organization which advocates for political and social activism in West Baltimore communities.

During the panel, Smith stressed the importance of building relationships between community members and students in Baltimore. She also believes that students in Baltimore should understand the City’s history.

“You don’t just go into someone’s home and give them what you think they need. You need to build relationships,” she said. “You also need to study

the history of movements of the past, and understand what worked and didn’t work before you take action.”

Katrina Bell McDonald, an associate professor of Sociology and co-director of the Center for Africana Studies at Hopkins and Erika Huggins, a Black Panther Party member, former political prisoner, poet and human rights advocate, also gave a talk about women’s role in social and political activism.



COURTESY OF IMANI WEST  
The panelists at the symposium discussed various political movements from 1968 to 2018.

She noted that, for example, the Party has provided food, community schools and education to black children.

Jasmine Campbell, the director of the Living Classrooms Under Armour House, an organization which provides education and job training in Baltimore, attended the symposium. She stated that most people don’t know all the different things the Black Panther Party did.

“It was militant if it had to be, but the basis of movement was filling the holes in the American Promise for black people,” she said. “So providing food, community schools and educating children, these were all things they were doing in the movement.”

Brendan Walsh and Willa Bickham are the co-founders of Viva House, a soup kitchen which provides temporary housing for women and children experiencing homelessness. Walsh and Bickham discussed the role of the church in the anti-war movement. Additionally, Walsh critiqued wealth inequality and war. He mentioned that he was involved in nonviolent protests against the Vietnam War.

The DewMore Baltimore Youth Poetry Team also presented original poetry. DewMore Baltimore is a national, award-winning youth program that engages youth between the ages of 13 to 19 who live in or around Baltimore City.

Campbell described the poetry team’s performance as thought-provoking.

“The poets talked about

the black experience in America in a beautiful poetic way,” she said. “While one can speak directly and radically talk about the way they feel, the poets instead conveyed their message in an artistic way, which I believe is far more effective in getting others to see one’s viewpoint.”

Campbell also enjoyed that the speakers at the event directly addressed social issues.

“I think it’s wonderful that we’re having these conversations,” she said. “In many community conversations about social justice and determinants, there’s a lot of tiptoeing around the root issues, but today, I felt like it was the most honest discussion I’ve ever been part of. The speakers came with a variety of thoughts and different perspectives.”

Erika Ford, a graduate student at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, attended the event and also echoed Campbell’s sentiment.

“I was definitely surprised at some of the speakers...and think it was good that people were not afraid to speak the truth,” she said.

Amber Potter, a junior at University of Baltimore, appreciated that the symposium focused on the history of political activism.

“I like how the symposium placed importance on history because it’s good to know and learn from social activism in the past,” she said. “We have to learn from what people did in the past and what they worked for and what we still need to work for.”

“You need to build relationships...to study the history of movements of the past.”

— DURRE SMITH,  
VICE PRESIDENT OF  
TUBMAN HOUSE  
INC.



COURTESY OF IMANI WEST  
The DewMore Baltimore Youth Poetry team performed at the event.

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A photograph of the exterior of The Broadview Apartments. The building is a multi-story structure with a modern design, featuring large windows and a covered entrance area. A sign on the building reads "BROADVIEW".

# Following sexual assault conviction, Univ. revokes Cosby's honorary degree



COURTESY OF LILI BERNARD

Bernard worked with SARU in 2015 to convince the University to rescind Bill Cosby's honorary degree.

**COSBY, FROM A1**  
prosecution returned with renewed strength during the 2018 trial.  
"One of the most effective things that the prosecution did in this trial was to bring an expert witness as their first witness, and that was a forensic psychiatrist," Bernard said. "She just outlined all of the rape myths and how all these commonly believed notions about how rape survivors should behave are actually falsehoods."  
In a statement to *The News-Letter*, Executive Director of Media Relations and Crisis Communications Dennis O'Shea wrote that by revoking the honorary degree, the University terminated any association between itself and Bill Cosby.  
"The University conferred the honorary degree on the

comedian and actor in 2004 based on his professional accomplishments to that date. At the time the honorary degree was conferred, the University was unaware of the allegations that Mr. Cosby sexually assaulted dozens of women over decades," O'Shea wrote.  
The University did not, however, notify Bernard of the decision to revoke the degree when it was released earlier this week.  
"They haven't written me, they haven't called me. They haven't thanked me," she said. "They haven't apologized to me for taking so long to come to the decision."  
In 2015, Bernard and seven SARU members met with Board of Trustees Secretary Maureen Marsh and then-Interim Vice President and General Counsel Paul Pineau. Bernard pro-

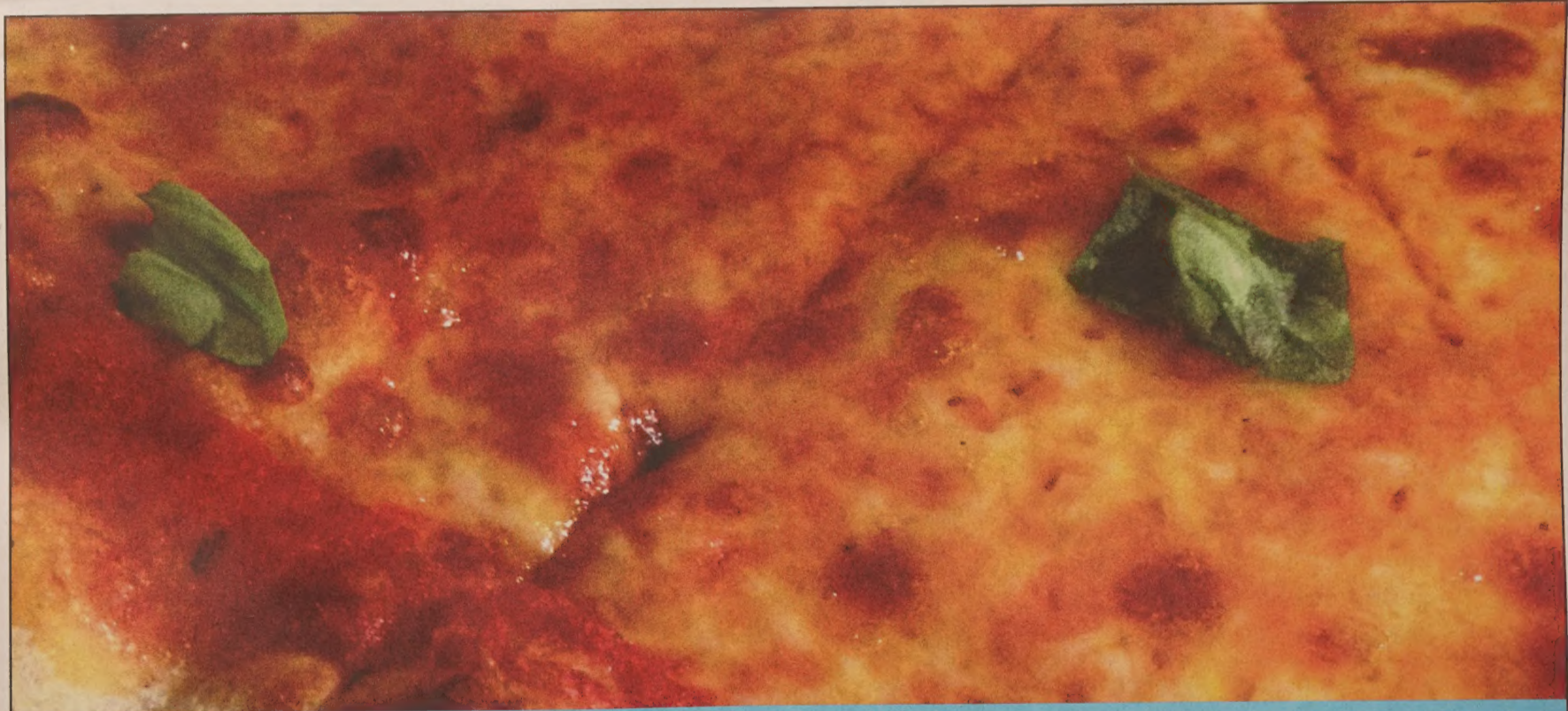
vided the University with a witness testimony of the trauma she underwent.  
Bernard took issue with the fact that the University did not revoke the degree for another three years.  
"The problem that I had with Hopkins waiting almost three years from when I spoke to them was that my word wasn't enough and my witnesses' word wasn't enough," Bernard said.  
She said that during the University's decision-making process on whether or not to revoke Cosby's honorary degree, it failed to respond to her emails. She said this silence sometimes lasted for up to five months. However, she reiterated that she was still grateful for their decision.  
"I'm glad that they came upon a decision that's really going to place them

at the right side of history, however disregarded I felt in their failure to do so earlier," she said.  
SARU Co-Presidents Dani Pitkoff and Mayuri Viswanathan said that while they were ultimately glad that the University revoked Cosby's degree, they felt that doing so only after a conviction was made undermined the testimonies of Bernard and other survivors.  
"We're glad that it happened, but this also sends the message that you're not going to be believed unless there's a conviction," Pitkoff said.  
Viswanathan was disappointed in how long it took Hopkins to revoke Cosby's honorary degree, adding that the University's actions fostered the narrative that sexual assault survivors will not be believed unless they carry out the often long and difficult process of pressing legal charges.  
"It's important to bring to attention the fact that the requests of student survivors and [Bernard] were completely ignored and sidelined for years. The narrative of due process doesn't make sense," Viswanathan said. "It wasn't one accusation, it wasn't two accusations. It wasn't just our institution. Their will-

ingness to ignore it just shows their lack of belief and support in survivors."  
She added that the school's administration should have held itself to a higher moral standard, rather than waiting for a guilty verdict.  
"It's not like Cosby paid tuition. It's not like there's any sort of obligation, it really is a symbolic thing. But taking it away is also a really symbolic thing," she said.  
Junior Stephanie Summerfield believes that the University's actions do not align with its message about standing in firm opposition to sexual assault.  
"Because they waited until he was declared guilty by a court of law, I think it shows that they might claim to take sexual assault seriously, but they drag their feet on dealing with it," she said.  
"It's not consistent with what they say about sexual assault to not have revoked it sooner."  
Sophomore Reah Vasilakopoulos agreed, adding that she thought revoking the honorary degree was overdue. The administration's response, she said, caused her to think critically about the climate surrounding sexual assault on campus and how the Uni-

versity supports survivors of sexual assault.  
"It shouldn't take more than 50 women coming forward and an actual sentencing for the University to rescind this degree," she said. "It should have happened amid all the accusations. It should have happened many, many years ago."  
Vasilakopoulos believes that the outcome of the Cosby case shows how survivors coming together to share their stories can have actual power. According to her, however, it also exposed weaknesses in the justice system.  
"So many of the survivors weren't able to bring it to the criminal justice system because of the statute of limitations being expired," Vasilakopoulos said. "It also speaks to a lot of the problems in the criminal justice system with how [sexual assault] is treated."  
Though Bernard felt that there were issues in the way the University treated her, she still believes that the decision to revoke Cosby's honorary degree is a step in the right direction.  
"I hope that Hopkins rescinding Bill Cosby's honorary doctorate will give the victims of sexual assault on campus a glimmer of hope that their voices will be heard by the institution, that the institution will act accordingly to their cries of help, that the institution will be an advocate to their healing," she said.

“[Hopkins] might claim to take sexual assault seriously, but they drag their feet.”  
—STEPHANIE SUMMERFIELD, JUNIOR



JOIN US FOR A STUDY  
BREAK TO ENJOY

Pizza with President Ronald Daniels and Interim Dean of Students Toni Blackwell

Where: MSE Library, Q Level - When: May 8th, 2018, 8-9:30pm

## VOICES

Hopkins is a diverse university, where an incredible mix of cultures, academic interests and personalities coexist and thrive...

## What we learned in our year as Editors-in-Chief



COURTESY OF EDA INCEKARA

Sam Fossum and Rollin Hu served as our fearless leaders this year.



Sam Fossum and Rollin Hu  
Chief Reflections

**H**ey, Rollin and Sam here, just your friendly neighborhood Editors-in-Chief. As our time wraps up, we decided that it's apt to reflect on and construct some notion of closure around the job that has consumed our lives for the past year.

We've done a lot of serious work this year, from last week's article on the Office for Institutional Equity to our coverage of the University's proposed private police force bill.

Our wonderful Voices section has published earnest pieces highlighting the importance of mental health, and our Opinions section has served as a platform for students to share their views on pressing issues like gun control and campus activism.

We've also had a lot of fun with issues like our April Fool's Edition, the coverage in our Arts and Sports sections and just the general revelry that happens on our production nights.

After a long Wednesday night, the newspaper that we print isn't simply a bundle of newsprint. It is a collection of stories.

Sometimes they're sad. Sometimes they're infuriating. Sometimes they're awe-inspiring and heart-warming.

But the most headache-inducing ones are those with competing narratives. Will a private police force be good, bad or a mixture of both? How should the school provide more mental health resources to its students? What about resources for survivors of sexual assault? Low-income students?

We often hear a story from students in one ear and another from administrators in the other. These differing stories are rarely clear-cut and often tango in and out of gray areas.

We have wrestled with these narratives, digging for an elusive truth. We may not have always gotten there, but we hoped to set

the stage for our readers to.

Through the process of listening to and helping share these stories, we learned that the most important lesson of this job is to recognize the people telling them.

We have interacted with a lot of people this past year. Whether they are our staff, our interviewees or our readers, we want to reiterate that they are all people.

We realize that statement may sound dumb or ironically "deep," but let us repeat: They are all people with individual thoughts, agendas, desires, fears and imperfections. And yet, we have seen people treat others not as people over the past year.

Sometimes we may perceive Hopkins administrators as caricatures or dastardly villains rather than individuals who, within the confines of their jobs, may be genuinely trying their best to help students.

We have seen students of differing political ideologies treat one another with dehumanizing disdain and mockery.

Readers have sent us emails or told us in person that we are "trash" and that our newspaper is "a rag."

But this cycle of "otherization" and dehumanization must end.

We, like everyone else, have made mistakes, and there are those who are fully within their right to be upset and disappointed by some of our work.

But vitriol begets more vitriol, and if we want this school to improve (and we all know there is a hell of a lot

of room for improvement), we are going to need every part of this institution to work together. Hopefully, this newspaper can help set us all on the path to reach that ideal.

Thank you to our readers for keeping us humble and holding us to a high standard.

Thank you to our editors and staff for consistently helping us to realize that standard through their hard work and positive attitudes.

And thank you to Kelsey and Morgan, our new Editors-in-Chief, for accepting this mantle in leading this newspaper through the next year.

We look forward to reading next year's *News-Letter*, and we want you and the rest of the staff to know that we will always have your backs.



Jacob Took  
Guest Column

**I** am not a poet. My ideal afternoon of writing does not include hours spent agonizing over the meter of each word, the rhythm of each line, wondering whether a close rhyme is close enough to work or if I need to scrap it entirely.

Students can't make their way through the Writing Seminars program without taking both fiction and poetry classes. I understand why it's important to read both, to try writing both. I can even see ways that the principles of writing poetry influence my fiction. But still, I dread the moment when I sit down with a blank sheet of paper to write a poem.

I struggle to figure out what I should write about. I usually can't find the words. I certainly have a hard time getting them in order. The rough draft of a sonnet will take an entire day's work. And always,

there's one thing I turn to, one thing that makes the words flow seamlessly:

The Pulse shooting.

I was fresh out of high school when Omar Mateen entered Pulse, a queer nightclub in Orlando, Fla., with an automatic weapon and killed 49 people before shooting himself.

I wasn't there. I don't know anyone who was. I lived in Orlando for a year, but that was long before I knew what nightclubs were or that I was part of the LGBTQ community. I haven't lived through a similar instance of gun violence.

So why was I so impacted by the Pulse shooting? Beyond offering my thoughts and prayers, beyond mourning for those who lost their lives, beyond calling for an end to gun violence in this country. I didn't cry when I found out. I didn't rage or scream. I don't think I realized at the time the impact it would leave on me.

But looking back, that was the first time I realized the real danger of identifying as LGBTQ.

In high school, I had to deal with conservative dicks who threatened me, intimidated me and harassed me, but they went away as soon as I left school.

## Holding men accountable and owning my anger



Lily Kairis  
Lil Musings

**T**wo months ago, my close friend Kelsey brought up the topic of female anger to me. She told me how she read a *New York Times* article about the ways in which men and women deal with their frustrations differently.

While men are taught to release their negativity via external aggression, women are taught repression. They are expected to keep their composure and avoid confrontation at all costs.

Thus, when faced with a conflict, women learn to internalize their pain as sadness. They blame themselves, doubt their worth and their perpetrators — often men — go on without criticism.

At the end of our conversation, Kelsey said, "I'm making a concentrated effort to allow myself more anger." This statement stuck with me.

In the month that followed, the topic of female anger kept coming up. Friends confided in me about harassment, we discussed sexual assault in my writing workshop, I listened to the Bill Cosby trial and I read *The News-Letter's* excellent front-page story on the Office of Institutional Equity.

In all of these instances, I couldn't stop thinking about Kelsey's words. I'm tired of blaming myself for

the wrongdoings of men. I'm tired of suppressing my reactions to make others comfortable. I want to get angry.

Just the other morning, I listened to a Ted Talk by Tracee Ellis Ross that put into words all the jumbled, angsty thoughts in my brain. It was entitled "A woman's fury holds lifetimes of wisdom."

Ross begins with an anecdote: Her friend was waiting in line at the post office one afternoon when a man came up behind her and shoved her out of the way.

The friend's first reaction was to make excuses, he's probably just reaching for a stamp. I must've been in his way. Maybe he said sorry, and I just didn't hear it.

But then they subsided, and in their place, a fury rose up inside her. She wanted to retaliate. That might sound like an overdramatic reaction, but even hearing her story second-hand, I felt it too: fury.

This fury is not simply a reflection of this single anecdote. Rather, it is the pent-up, constantly building, constantly silenced result of a lifetime of micro-aggressions.

For years, men have helped themselves to women's bodies without consent. It is something nearly every woman has experienced and something we have grown to accept.

When I think of the instances in my life of verbal or physical violation (cat-calls on my walk home, someone grinding on me at a concert or men in clubs grabbing my butt), I often consider myself lucky.

I think "it could have been worse." How is that fair? Why is it that we, as women, are constantly living in fear?

They had no real power over me, and it was easy for me to brush them off. With the Pulse shooting came the realization that I could be killed at any time in any place just because someone decided they didn't like that I was gay.

College was the first time in my life when I could go to actual queer spaces for LGBTQ people. That was not something I had in high school. And it was great feeling part of a community that I didn't know I had been missing.

Coming off the heels of the Pulse shooting, though, I realized that queer spaces are not necessarily safe spaces. And for me, like many other LGBTQ people, that forever marred my ability to feel safe in queer spaces.

So why poetry? Maybe that's the only way I feel like I can address it. Maybe for a long time I didn't think too much about the trauma left by the Pulse shooting, but it came out when I tried to write poems.

Maybe I realized this semester that it was a problem because over half of the poems I've written for my Introduction to Poetry class have been about the Pulse shooting, examining it from different angles and different perspectives. Sometimes the speaker is the shooter,

sometimes a victim or the parent of a victim, sometimes just a passerby who sees the aftermath.

I'm always trying to place myself back in that moment, trying to understand what happened, the rage and the grief and the fear that permeate that scene in my mind.

I also have some guilt — am I really entitled to write poetry about a tragedy I wasn't a part of? Is putting myself in the shoes of the shooter doing a disservice to my community? Should I think about publishing these poems? Will I become that Pulse poet?

It's not that my other poems are unusable, but they pale in quality compared to those I have written about Pulse. Of the 10 best poems I've written, the only one that isn't about Pulse confronts the purges of gay men in Chechnya last year. Do I have an obsession with writing about gay tragedies? Maybe.

Part of me hopes that I'll be able to write my way out of it, that if I just throw enough words at it, eventually I'll have done all of the thinking I need to and move on. But that hasn't happened so far, and I don't know if it's reasonable to expect that to happen. All I know is that the words are still coming.

lady, that is what you are supposed to do.

Then, one afternoon in March of my sophomore year, Bruce stroked my exposed thigh. I quit the volunteer position the next week.

I never told anyone about Bruce because I thought it was normal. I thought that I was overreacting. I pushed away my discomfort, deeming it invalid because this is just the way things are.

Bruce couldn't help himself, just like the guy at Tent Party couldn't help himself.

For whatever reason, society has drilled into boys that they can act however they please, as if women are theirs for the taking.

While our civilization may have progressed, women are still facing constant disrespect. It may seem "innocuous" — those moments of brief touching and off-hand remarks — but as Ross says in her speech: "The innocuous makes space for the horrific."

It is about time that we stop making excuses for men's misbehavior. No matter how small, sexual harassment is unacceptable, and I, for one, am done being sad about it.

I am furious.



COURTESY OF MINGLE MEDIA TV/CC BY-SA 2.0

Tracee Ellis Ross gave a TED Talk that addressed the topic of female rage.

Here is the section where you can publish your unique thoughts, ideas and perspectives on life at Hopkins and beyond.

# Re-evaluating the meaning of “busy” and striving to stay present



Kelsey Ko  
Guest Column

I’m not quite sure what burnout is, but what happened two weeks ago felt something quite like it. After weeks of what had felt like going through life on auto-pilot — running in and out of back-to-back meetings, slogging through a cappella practices, rubbing my bleary eyes in the morning and rushing to class — a bad grade on a midterm tipped the scale. In what could possibly be categorized as the most dramatic, angst-ridden moment in my young adult life, I came home, collapsed on my bed and cried myself to sleep at 4 in the afternoon. Sometimes it’s hard for me to remember the last time that I defined myself by anything other

than the word busy. Who am I without this adjective? Busy has always been good to me. Busy has helped me to feel productive, useful and motivated. Busy has given me networks of people I cherish, who work toward the same goals as me. I’ve loved the never-ending grind of running from building to apartment to lunch plans to the library. I’ve relished the fact that I crash at the end of the each day, exhausted by my efforts. But here’s the catch: Busy is also the greatest pretense for someone who cannot be alone with their own thoughts. Busy is the aura of productivity masking the fact that you feel completely out of control with each “Yes” and every “I’ll do it.” And for me, the art of being busy is trying to connect with people but keeping them at a distance. It’s surrounding myself with causes I believe in until I’m stretched so thin that I’m no longer sure what I can possibly give. We all have the persona that we strive to project out into the world. I don’t know

at what point I began to internalize that exterior image of myself — the girl who is smiling, encouraging, calm, optimistic — to the point where I denied myself of feeling sadness. Two weeks ago when I had that meltdown, it was like holding a mirror up to my inner psyche. And what I saw was a girl who was frantically treading water. I wasn’t sinking; I wasn’t swimming. I was just making sure I didn’t drown. More and more, I’m realizing that having it all and doing it all does not mean I’ll become happier. It is my crutch. I take on everything because I’m scared of being nothing. Business and responsibility and productivity validate me. My activities and accomplishments soothe my intense fear that what I do might not matter or is not enough, keeping me safely distracted from any sort of pain. When I was back home

in Pennsylvania a couple of weeks ago with little to do but relax, I couldn’t find relief from my anxiety and catastrophic thinking. I’d sit in my bed, self-care routine of face mask and candles in place and my favorite book in hand, unable to calm the cacophony of my own thoughts — was I doing enough for the activities and clubs that I was involved in? What if I didn’t do well in my classes this semester? Why wasn’t I a better friend? Once I was alone with nothing to do, it was clear to me how hard I’d been trying to drown out the insecure, anxious voice in my head. For instance, this past January after a breakup, I threw myself headfirst into my work and social life as a coping mechanism. I knew that if I kept constantly busy, I wouldn’t have to think about it. I remember one of my friends checking in with me after a month of

me clearly driving myself into the ground. “Being alone is hard. Mornings and nights are the hardest,” she said. And she’s right. Going through my morning routine or laying in bed at night, my anxiety doesn’t leave me alone. With nothing to do and no one by my side, it’s just me and the incessant hum in my own head, swirling with doubts, insecurities and fears. While being busy has meant not taking time to check in with my own sadness, it’s also meant that I’ve felt out of tune with my own happiness. Sometimes it feels like my brain is light years ahead of what I’m doing in the present moment, always thinking about the next project I have to do, the next meeting I have to make. Maybe busy has also made me selfish. I feel ashamed to admit that it’s hard for me to even hold long conversations with people without my eyes darting around the room because I feel stressed about taking too much time out of my day. When push comes to shove, it feels like in my constant state of doing, friends and

relationships have fallen by the wayside. Let’s take this moment to remind ourselves that life is not about doing so much that we’re suddenly no longer present. I don’t want to feel so preoccupied that I’m numb to experiencing the little pockets of joy in my day. Like the laughter that fills the tiny room in Mattin Center during a cappella practices or the Gatehouse on a *News-Letter* production night. The nice barista at Brody who slides me an extra free pastry at closing time. The feeling of lying on the Beach on a Friday afternoon. I’ll try to remember to live in those moments, rather than just going through the motions. Instead of saying yes to everything, I’ll try to say yes to myself and my own ability to fully invest in what I already have. It hurts to exist in a constant state of holding my breath, precariously piling on commitments, hoping that everything doesn’t come crashing down. So I’ll revel in the quiet, attentive to what my body and mind try to tell me. Exhale.

I’m realizing that having it all and doing it all does not mean I’ll become happier.

## Supergirl continues to deserve a better love life



COURTESY OF ANJAAGNIESZKA/CC-BY-SA-4.0  
Benoist’s Kara Danvers, aka Supergirl, is entitled to a fulfilling love life.



Catherine Palmer  
Catwoman

Around this time last year, I wrote about how *Supergirl* had never given Kara Danvers (Melissa Benoist) a good romantic storyline. This season, she has fortunately not been forced into another cringey relationship, but that’s only because she’s been hung up on her most recent ex, Mon-El (Chris Wood), who never deserved her in the first place. From the beginning, Kara and Mon-El, aka “Karamel,” were set up as literally star-crossed lovers. Like Kara, he was one of the only people to survive the explosion of Krypton. It destroyed his nearby home planet, Daxam, an enemy of Krypton. He escaped in a pod that crash-landed in National City at the end of the first season. The tension between them essentially arose from the fact that Mon-El was an obnoxious, inconsiderate jerk, and Kara was not, which is a set-up that I can

label only as quite poor. Sure it’s a trope that brought drama and attempts at comedy, but it mostly just caused frustration. Kara had a crush on Mon-El almost immediately and started trying to reform him and make him superhero material since his powers are similar to hers. Eventually, she gave up because he refused to take direction from her in the field. Then she literally apologized for trying to help him because, of course, women are supposed to apologize for everything. However, as soon as Mon-El evolved a little and confessed his “love” for Kara, they were suddenly supposed to be this great couple, even though he continued to disrespect her. The audience needed to invest in their relationship to make the season two finale work. After a Daxamite invasion that, to be fair, Mon-El was not involved in, Kara was forced to choose between staying with Mon-El and letting the planet suffer and making the atmosphere poisonous to all Daxamites, thereby forcing Mon-El to travel back into space. She chose the latter, obviously, but was devastated and haunted by her decision for months. I was quite happy to see him go. But now, through the magic of space-time travel, he’s back

from the 31st century with a wife of seven years. Granted, the writers haven’t tried to get Kara and Mon-El back together, at least not yet. I guess the one thing they’re unwilling to let her become is a homewrecker. And on a positive note, Mon-El finally apologized for how badly he treated Kara in the past, which prompted Kara to realize that she has a right to be mad, really mad, about it. In last week’s episode, Kara epically lit into him about every way in which he sucked as a boyfriend. Naturally, she later unnecessarily apologized. It’s also highly likely that Kara’s rant was only the result of the showrunners realizing how badly they screwed up last season. \*sigh\* Anyway, the actual inspiration for this column was my recent epiphany that Kara and Mon-El remind me of another couple. They are the unfunny version of Ann Perkins (Rashida Jones) and Tom Haverford (Aziz Ansari) from *Parks and Recreation*. The reason why Ann and Tom worked was because they didn’t work at all. In their few months together, they were pretty much on the brink of breaking up the whole time. Their relationship consisted of Tom pathetically fluctuating between being way too extra and way too serious in his attempts to be a good boyfriend. Ann gave him a chance, a few even, but she never demeaned herself. She always called him out and told him to shape up, putting the onus on him to change himself rather than placing the burden on herself. Eventually they both realized they were just too different. Kara and Mon-El were aware of their incompatibility but not aware enough. Tom considered

breaking up with Ann because she committed one of his “Oh-no-nos” by “not loving 90s R&B.” Mon-El committed several, very real “Oh-no-nos,” but Kara never really called him out before last week. She always gave him the benefit of the doubt. Since its premiere in 2015, *Supergirl* has taken on the responsibility of presenting empowering female role models for its young viewers, and in many respects the show has succeeded. This season, for example, focused much more on female friendship with storylines revolving around the heartwarming and badass quartet of Alex Danvers (Chyler Leigh), Lena Luthor (Katie McGrath), Samantha Arias (Odette Annable) and Kara. But not counting “Santavers,” the inspiring relationship between Alex and Maggie Sawyer (Floriana Lima) that tragically ended this season when Lima chose to leave the show, *Supergirl* has failed its female characters and its viewers miserably in the romance department. Since this is my last column, I’m wrapping up with some shoutouts. First, I’d like to thank my friends Liz Winkelhoff, Lauren Fogelman and Diva Parekh for getting me into superhero television. Without you guys, none of this would have been possible. Second, I would like to thank my friend Megan Peoples, who was an amazing *Voices* Editor over the past two years. Without your support, I never would have discovered my passion for this kind of writing. And I am very proud to now call you my Neatures great-grandchild. Finally, I’d like to thank anyone who’s ever read this column. It’s been real, y’all.

## Self-care tips for heading into exams

### Get off campus

There are tons of unique cafés that make great study spots. Go explore and find your favorites.

### Exercise

To quote Elle Woods, “Exercise gives you endorphins; endorphins make you happy.”

### Stay hydrated and eat something

This seem obvious, yet it’s all too easy to get caught up in work and forget to take breaks for meals.

### Sleep

Again, we all know we should, but especially during exams, getting a few extra hours of shut-eye can be key.

### Socialize

Make time to see your friends while you’re all on campus — I promise you won’t regret it!

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NEWS-LETTER

Editorials

The University must listen to student voices, beyond just their protests

Last Thursday, following decades of accusations from over 50 survivors of sexual assault and years of courtroom battles, a Pennsylvania jury finally found Bill Cosby guilty on three counts of felony aggravated indecent assault, which include sexually assaulting a woman he had drugged in 2004.

Cosby, the comedian who has been called “America’s Dad,” received an honorary degree from the University in 2004 and spoke at that year’s commencement. Following last Thursday’s conviction, the University’s Board of Trustees voted to revoke the degree. The University also released a statement that day which read, “At the time the honorary degree was conferred, the university was unaware of the allegations that Mr. Cosby sexually assaulted dozens of women over decades.”

While the University may have been unaware of those allegations in 2004, it was most certainly aware in 2015, when members of the Sexual Assault Resource Unit (SARU) and Cosby survivor Lili Bernard met with Secretary of the Board of Trustees Maureen Marsh and General Counsel Paul Pineau to voice their concerns.

At the time, at least 13 other universities had already rescinded honorary degrees they had bestowed upon Cosby, and many students called upon our University to follow suit.

The 2015-2016 Student Government Association passed a resolution demanding that Hopkins rescind Cosby’s degree, writing that “it fundamentally tarnishes the name and reputation of The Johns Hopkins University to continue to allow Mr. Cosby

to maintain the distinction of holding an honorary degree from our institution.”

That same academic year, *The News-Letter* wrote an editorial calling for the University to rescind the degree and take a stance against sexual assault. When we followed up on this story in February, the University responded with a statement which read, “As stated previously, Johns Hopkins has a set of values we seek to uphold and we continue to closely monitor all developments related to this matter.”

We believe that the University’s decision last week to revoke Cosby’s degree comes too late. The members of the Board of Trustees did not listen to survivors or student voices — they only made their decision after a court had sentenced Cosby for his crimes.

The University’s belatedness in rescinding Cosby’s degree plays into a larger trend of disregarding student opinions. At times, it feels like our voices enter the void of the University and a unilateral decision emerges with some banal response like, “we will closely monitor all developments related to this matter.” The University releases vague statements that do little to explain how they consult us. We are left to wonder: How does the University take student voices into consideration?

When our reporters asked University President Ronald J. Daniels this very question last Thursday, he answered: “I’m actually hard-pressed to think about an issue that the student body saw as really significant and that we were unable to get thoughtful and impactful student voices into those conversations, whether through task

forces and commissions, an open forum, town hall or other venue.”

We, on the other hand, are hard-pressed to think of a time when the University actively considered student input before a major decision was made. Students and administrators clearly have different ideas about what “student input” actually entails.

*The News-Letter* has reported on many instances in which this disparity in viewpoints manifests. In March, when the University announced its intent to create a private police force, students planned protests and testified in front of the Maryland General Assembly. In October 2016, when the University announced that the Humanities Center might face closure, graduate students organized protests throughout the fall semester. In May 2016, when the University announced that it would discontinue its covered grades policy, students denounced the lack of input and again, organized in opposition to a University act.

We are tired of reporting on a cycle in which the University announces something and students are forced to make their voices heard. This does not seem like active student input. It seems like a decision is made without our voice, and then we must fight to make sure that the University listens.

We believe that student input is invaluable in University-level decisions, because we are often directly impacted by them. It is not enough for students to merely respond to decisions. Students must be given an equal seat at the decision-making table and an equal platform on which to raise their voices.

OIE with additional resources, if needed.

We have been undertaking a close review of caseload data to understand any impediments to prompt resolution, and we are developing a template for regular public reporting. We expect this report – including the number of cases filed and investigated, and data on the time-to-closure and disposition of cases – will be ready for review and input within a few months, providing the kind of transparency and accountability that will be key to building and sustaining trust with our students and progress in the long term. We will look to current partners, including the Sexual Violence Advisory Committee and the Sexual Assault Resource Unit, and other interested groups and individuals for feedback as we finalize this work.

In closing, we want to draw attention again to the University’s online complaint form <http://sexualassault.jhu.edu/file-complaint/complaint-form.html>, which includes the number for the 24 hour help line 410-516-7333. As we work together to strengthen OIE, we also want to urge members of our community to advance our common goal by reporting incidents or concerns about sexual misconduct or any other form of discrimination or harassment on our campus.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Hewitt, Vice Provost for Institutional Equity

Joy Gaslevic, Assistant Vice Provost and Title IX Coordinator

Letter to the Editor

In response to “On their own” published on April 26:

Dear Editors,

We appreciate *The News-Letter’s* focus on sexual assault in the April 26 edition, and welcome a continued dialogue on how to address and prevent sexual assault and misconduct on campus. We are writing to provide more information about how we’re addressing two important issues.

OIE’s goal is to accurately and expeditiously handle reports, complaints and investigations related to discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct, preserving an appropriate balance of care, speed, and due process. As cited in your coverage, the vast majority of cases related to sexual misconduct are closed within the 60-day target, but we know a substantial group of complex cases can take longer. A rushed process could undermine our recent progress but we recognize that timeliness is important to all parties in an investigation.

Since 2015 the University has significantly overhauled our sexual misconduct policies and procedures, and nearly doubled OIE’s staffing while increasing its spending by 60 percent. Increased training, the launch of an outreach and information campaign, and public reporting on our first sexual misconduct climate survey have helped elevate the office’s work and visibility within our community. But these efforts are far from complete. We constantly evaluate our progress, and the university is prepared to provide

LETTERS & OP-ED POLICY

*The News-Letter* encourages letters to the editor and op-eds. *The Johns Hopkins News-Letter* reserves the sole right to edit all op-ed pieces and/or letters to the editor for space, grammar, clarity, accuracy and style. This applies to the body of the submission as well as its headline. Upon submission, all op-eds and letters to the editor become property of *The News-Letter*. *The News-Letter* reserves the right to not publish any op-ed or letter to the editor for any reason, at the sole discretion of the Editors-in-Chief. Letters to the editor are limited to 400 words, must address content previously published in *The News-Letter*, and must include the author’s name. Letters must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for inclusion in that week’s issue; they should be sent to [chiefs@jhnews-letter.com](mailto:chiefs@jhnews-letter.com) (with “Letter to the editor” in the subject line) or the mailing address below. To write an op-ed, contact [opinions@jhnewsletter.com](mailto:opinions@jhnewsletter.com). Op-eds are not limited in their length except as available space may dictate. All submissions may be published online as well as in the paper, and no anonymous submissions will be accepted.

Submittal of an op-ed and/or letter to the editor acknowledges your acceptance of and agreement to these policies. Any questions about these policies should be directed to the Editors-in-Chief of *The News-Letter* at [chiefs@jhnewsletter.com](mailto:chiefs@jhnewsletter.com).

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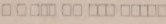
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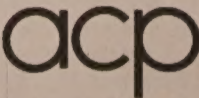
  
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OPINIONS

*With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.*

The University should listen to survivors of sexual assault



COURTESY OF LILI BERNARD  
Over two years ago, Cosby survivor and actress Lili Bernard met with members of SARU.

By **DANI PITKOFF**  
& **MAYURI VISWANATHAN**

The Board of Trustees defended their decision to wait until last Thursday to revoke Bill Cosby’s honorary degree by claiming to respect due process.

But this was never a question of guilty or not guilty in a court of law. This was about listening to a survivor’s story, understanding the courage it took to tell it and acting on that understanding, swiftly and decisively. Their failure to recognize that shows that they are not listening to what survivors of sexual assault at Hopkins are telling them.

In 2015, members of our organization, the Sexual Assault Resource Unit (SARU), sat in the room with Lili Bernard, a Hopkins parent and a Cosby survivor.

She shared her personal account with administrators of being drugged, raped and threatened by Cosby. Then, for over two years, we waited.

We organized campaigns, collected signatures and followed up, often with the administrators. We waited while many of our peer institutions revoked Cosby’s honorary degrees. All the while, the University met us with silence, a blatant show of disregard for the courage it took for Lili to come forward.

We waited for our University to take a simple action which sends a strong message of support for survivors. Hopkins had little to lose, and the trust of Lili, ourselves and all survivors of sexual assault were at stake.

While we celebrate that the University has finally revoked Cosby’s degree, we confront the reality that Lili’s testimony and our voices meant nothing to them.

The University claims to care about ending sexual violence while ignoring the voices of student survivors who are shouting solutions. We have watched as our previous co-directors and members of SARU created and staffed their own resources to prevent sexual violence and help survivors on our campus heal because the resources were not there.

Our University has relied on student survivors and activists to continue to do the courageous and emotional labor of supporting other students on this campus. Why are those students, who perform such essential work for the Hopkins community, so often met with closed doors from upper levels of administration?

Last semester, SARU created an open letter with over 800 signatures, asking University President Ronald J. Daniels to publicly affirm the University’s commitment to upholding the protections listed in the 2011 “Dear Colleague” letter.

Not only did Daniels ignore

our emails requesting to meet with him, but he also handed it off to the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE), even though we made it clear that the lack of a strong statement from him was a significant barrier to reporting.

We met with several members of the administration, many of whom voiced personal support for our demands but expressed that their hands were tied by the institution. The conversation stopped there.

The public affirmation came late — from the Office of the Provost rather than Daniels — and only after months of meetings and dead ends.

Like with the Cosby degree, our request was simple and easy to address. Yet survivors on campus were forced to wait for months to hear from their University, unsure of what protections they still had.

It is impossible to express how frustrating the refusal of the administration to engage with us is without expressing the effect this work has on us. Our institution’s refusal to be proactive in meeting the needs of survivors means that we have to take on more of their responsibilities.

This means taking students to OIE, guiding them through the reporting process and also being there for the times the reporting process fails them. This means providing one of the only safe spaces and confidential audiences on campus for students to disclose. It means living and reliving trauma.

We personally have suffered vicarious trauma from the work that we do. We have had strong psychological and physiological responses to it and have needed to seek therapy to heal from our own trauma while being constantly exposed to that of students around us.

We feel privileged to have earned the trust of survivors to support and advocate for them. But in order for us to be effective in the work we are so passionate about, we need the University to actively respond to our concerns and support us.

All we ask is that our institution understands that we are the ones doing this work. We want the University to engage with us, listen to us and implement the solutions we are asking for.

We are living the experiences of student survivors on this campus. We are using the available resources. We know what works and what doesn’t. And we are knocking on your doors.

*Dani Pitkoff is a senior from Pound Ridge, N.Y. with a major in Writing Seminars. She is currently co-director of SARU.*

*Mayuri Viswanathan is a junior from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. and the other co-director of SARU. She is a double major in Neuroscience and Political Science.*

Media criticism of Wolf is unwarranted

By **SAM MOLLIN**

This Sunday at the White House Correspondents’ Dinner, Michelle Wolf’s comedy routine delivered an unflinching roast to many of the people in attendance.

Wolf joked that she hoped Counselor to the President Kellyanne Conway gets stuck under a tree and that Ivanka Trump is full of shit. Most controversially, she joked that White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders applies her smokey eye with the ashes of the facts she burns.

Video coverage zoomed in on the stony facial expressions of attendees who were called out, and many of the jokes were met with stony silence by the audience. Should you be outraged?

Many on both the right and the left think that you should. The Trump administration predictably attacked Wolf’s performance, and the president called the performance an embarrassment.

Even strong Trump critics such as journalist Maggie Haberman called Wolf’s performance inappropriate, while praising Huckabee’s strength in facing Wolf’s insults.

News outlets like *The Hill* went so far as to say they wouldn’t be attending any future White House Correspondents’ Dinners, saying that they make the journalism industry look bad.

This outrage, however justifiable it may seem, has two major problems. The first is that it mischaracterizes the jokes that were made at Sanders’ expense. Many critics of the comedy routine say that it was low and inappropriate

for Wolf to specifically go after another woman’s looks and that she engaged in a form of bullying.

However, the facts of what happened simply don’t hold that criticism up. All Wolf did was make a single joke about how much Sanders lies, which mentioned her eye shadow.

It might have been one awkward line among many, but to say that it constituted a misogynistic attack based on appearance is simply untrue.

What’s disappointing is not how the right is taking this awkward line. It’s that mainstream news outlets and the public are allowing themselves to be offended by this line instead of actually watching the performance and seeing what really happened.

Being outraged by Wolf’s performance and conflating it as a media-sanctioned attack on successful women is playing into what those who wish to undermine the media and the First Amendment want you to think.

The second incredulous part of the reaction to Wolf’s performance is the enormous double standard applied to her by both the media and others. Mainstream media outlets have been quick to take a principled stand denouncing the very woman they invited to the press conference because of her “truth-to-power” style.

By inviting Wolf, the White House Correspondents’ Association (WHCA) got exactly what they wanted: a controversial, biting performance. However, when faced with the consequences, the WHCA was too cowardly to stand by Wolf.

It’s not coincidental that mainstream media outlets are attacking Wolf after she delivered a

routine that not only attacked the White House, but also sharply pointed out the media’s repeated enablement of Trump even as they claimed to take such a principled stance against him.

It’s important to think about who benefits from bringing down Wolf. It isn’t just that Republicans in Congress and in the White House are hell-bent on undermining any media they think opposes them.

It’s also the media, which is eager to distract the public from their own very real flaws and distance themselves from controversy.

One of Wolf’s punchlines was that the media treated Trump like someone they used to date. They claim to hate him and always say bad things about him, but, in secret, they love him. She spoke the truth about something that many in the media don’t like to admit.

The press has benefitted from covering Trump and enabling his popularity in the first place, and they did it because of greed. They put the good of themselves before the good of the country, and perhaps when Wolf told them that to their faces, during their self-aggrandizing black tie dinner party, it was too much to handle.

Maybe that’s why Wolf is being thrown under the bus for one controversial joke, while the media continues to normalize a president that seems to do far worse on a daily basis. Is the press’ indictment of Wolf a principled stand, or a principled run for their money? Think about that the next time you think of Wolf.

*Sam Mollin is a freshman majoring in political science from Larchmont, N.Y.*

Recent U.S. attacks in Syria are unconstitutional

By **WILLIAM HILL**  
& **MICHAEL LEFF**

On April 7, the Syrian Arab Army (SAA) conducted a chemical attack on the Syrian town of Douma, killing at least 40 Syrian men, women and children.

In response, a coalition of U.S., British and French forces conducted three strikes against Syrian chemical weapons production, storage and research facilities on April 14. They emphasized that the response was meant to be surgical.

However, the U.S. led response constitutes a failure. Although the Assad regime’s ability to produce and distribute nerve agents may have been degraded, they retain many other chemical weapons.

We believe that the U.S. led response to this attack acted primarily as an emotional release and lacked the necessary magnitude. Even if the attack was technically successful and “perfectly executed,” the strikes were strategically unproductive and lack a clear role as part of a broader Syria strategy.

Other humanitarian horrors also remain unaddressed, such as the Assad regime’s persistent campaign against healthcare facilities and civilian infrastructure.

Moreover, the attack was unconstitutional and part of a long-standing trend in executive overreach. The legal justification for U.S. involvement in Syria has been muddled under both the Obama and Trump administrations.

While former U.S. President Barack Obama requested congressional authorization after the Syrian government’s use of chemical weapons in 2013, he simultaneously claimed that the executive branch already had the authority to conduct such strikes “without specific congressional authorization.”

Speaker of the House Paul Ryan likewise claimed that the Trump administration has authority under the existing 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF). The 2001 AUMF authorizes U.S. presidents to use force against “nations, organizations or persons” responsible for the 9/11 attacks, along with any “associated forces.” While it grants broad powers, one could not reasonably conclude that it justifies U.S. activities against Syrian regime forces who had no involvement in the 9/11 attacks.

In the immediate aftermath of the strike, Secretary of Defense James Mattis argued that Trump had the authority “to use military force overseas to defend important U.S. national interests.”

This argument is both ahistorical and dangerously expansive. Though the War Powers Act would still constrain the executive’s ability to unilaterally conduct war, Mattis’ interpretation may offer justification for vast and territorially unlimited, unilateral air strikes by the executive branch.

Recently, a bipartisan coalition unveiled the “2018 AUMF.” This legislation has an admirable goal to secure war powers for Congress.

Unfortunately, this legislation does not substantially increase congressional input in the use of war powers. For instance, the legislation creates a mechanism whereby new “associated forces” can be designated unilaterally by the president while giving Congress 60 days to remove such additions. Decisions by Congress would be subject to the president’s veto.

Though Congress may rein in executive authority via measures like appropriations riders, the degree to which it would be abdicating its role cannot be overstated.

It is true that the 2018 AUMF legislation still represents genuine progress in the discourse on war

powers and the role of the legislature. It’s also more specific than the 2001 AUMF in limiting the scope of the president’s power.

It also mandates additional reporting when using force in a new location beyond the six countries explicitly specified and defines “associated forces” to exclude sovereign nations, a welcome limit to potentially expansive interpretations of the AUMF.

The 2018 AUMF also creates a quadrennial congressional review process. Though it is formatted in a way that grants sweeping authority to the executive, the benefits of such regular reviews to political discourse are incontrovertible.

Nevertheless, the 2018 AUMF is fundamentally dangerous and flawed. It is crucial that the Trump administration, as well as future administrations, act coherently within their constitutionally and legislatively delegated war powers. The U.S. failed to do so with its strikes on April 14.

The first step the Trump administration must take is to work with Congress to clearly define U.S. intentions and its future role in Syria, possibly through a new Syria-specific AUMF. Once it has followed through on its legal obligations, the administration can devise a coherent policy with a clear end goal.

Moreover, we Hopkins students must vote and hold our elected officials responsible for their actions overseas. Our constitutional democracy is too valuable to do otherwise.

*William Hill is a freshman International Studies and Romance Language major from Bay Shore, N.Y. He is the secretary of College Republicans.*

*Michael Leff is a freshman Molecular and Cellular Biology major from Highland Park, N.J. He is the treasurer of the College Republicans.*

# Farewell



## The 2017-2018 Editors

Top, from left to right:  
Gillian Lelchuk, Will Kirsch, Rollin Hu, Jacqui Neber, Emilie Hoffer, Catherine Palmer, Sam Fossum

Bottom, from back to front and left to right:  
Sam Farrar, Greg Melick, Jacob Took, Esther Hong, Meagan Peoples, Katie Tam, Alyssa Wooden, Sarah Y. Kim, Morgan Ome, Sandra Weiss, Kelsey Ko, Elaine Chiao, Diva Parekh, Katherine Logan

Not pictured:  
Renee Scavone, Ellie Hallenborg, Cindy Jiang, Lauren Questell, Giselle Ruiz, Jeanne Lee, Elaine Wong



## Our Chiefs

Dear Sam and Rollin,

We are so grateful for everything that you've done for *The News-Letter*. From pushing us to become better journalists to bringing humor and warmth to the Gatehouse, you have served as incredible role models and friends for us. Your tireless efforts behind the scenes have not gone unnoticed and have laid a strong foundation for the future of the paper.

Sam, your empathy and ability to make everyone feel welcome is so special. Thank you for listening to our stories — both ours and those of the student body — with an open heart and mind.

Rollin, your selflessness and willingness to always put the paper before yourself is so admirable. Thank you for instilling a strong work ethic in all of us and leading by example.

Though we will miss you both deeply, know that your legacy will never be forgotten.

Warmly,  
Kelsey and Morgan



## Seniors

From back to front and left to right:  
Gillian Lelchuk, Sam Fossum, Catherine Palmer, Sabrina Chen, Rollin Hu, Jacqui Neber, Emilie Hoffer, Will Kirsch

Not pictured:  
Renee Scavone, Ellie Hallenborg, Cindy Jiang

## Congratulations to the 2018-2019 Editorial Board!

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Morgan Ome

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## The News-Letter would like to thank the following people for all their help this year:

Joan Freedman  
Mamie Bryant  
Kevin Shollenberger  
Erin Yun  
Andy Wilson  
Nadine Goldberg  
Bill Catterton  
Jaclyn Fuller

Nichole Mukoda  
Travis Ricks  
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The Alumni and Development Office, The University Archives  
All our editors, writers and our readers

# THE B SECTION

YOUR WEEKEND • ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • CARTOONS, ETC. • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY • SPORTS

MAY 3, 2018



## Arts & Entertainment

Witness Theater presents spring showcase — B3

Center for Visual Arts Director Craig Hankin retires — B4

Studio North premieres student films at Parkway Theatre — B5



## Science & Technology

Nobel laureate Jack W. Szostak discusses the origin of life — B7

The portrayal of sharks in popular culture is misleading — B8

Researchers share work at Space@Hopkins Symposium — B9



## Sports

M. & W. Tennis top the Centennial Conference — B10

M. & W. Track compete in annual Penn Relays Carnival — B11

Maryland Terrapins defeat Hopkins lacrosse in triple OT — B12

# YOUR WEEKEND MAY 3 - 6

## Events in Baltimore this weekend

### Thursday

#### Hey You, Come Back! May Reading

The Crown

8 p.m.

Stop by to hear readings from several up-and-coming writers, including Aleya Rentz, Rebekah Kirkman and Steven J. Hoochuck. This will be The Crown's last reading until August. Free.

### Friday

#### Get Shredded Shop Opening Party!

Get Shredded Vintage

5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Drop by one of Baltimore's newest shops as they celebrate their first Friday! Browse vintage clothing and local art while enjoying drinks and music. No cover.

#### 2018 Maryland Film Festival

SNF Parkway

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Celebrate the annual Maryland Film Festival by checking out some of 40 feature films and 10 shorts! Choose from one of several theaters or hit them all. \$11 (purchased on-site only).

### Saturday

#### Splash City Golf at Sandlot

Sandlot

4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

If you've ever wanted to have an excuse to send golf balls into the Inner Harbor, this is your chance. Clubs and targets are provided as you hit biodegradable balls into the water. \$10.

#### Club Mutant: Blood Rave Presented by Kilbourne

No Land Beyond

8 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Witness a reinterpretation of the classic vampire horror film *Blade*, with a remixed score by Kilbourne. Afterward stick around for a party, DJ performances and live performances. \$10.

### Sunday

#### Trivia Night

One World Cafe

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Bring a group of friends and test your knowledge at trivia. Winning groups will receive prizes. Free.

## Reflecting on four years of living in Charm City

By RENEE SCAVONE  
Your Weekend Editor

I've written just over 30 articles about Baltimore for the Your Weekend section in the past couple years, and as my senior year winds down to a close (But does anything at Hopkins really "wind down" as opposed to screeching to an academically exhausting halt?) I've thought a lot about what this last one should be like.

How do I sum up four years worth of exploring a city I really, really love? That I think everyone should love? That doesn't get nearly enough credit?

The truth is, when people outside of the Hopkins bubble ask me where I'm from, I now have to stop myself from saying Baltimore.

Of course I can't ever really claim to be a local. There are tons of neighborhoods, venues and (of course) restaurants that I've yet to explore. Here, however, mostly in the chronological order in which I've explored them, are some of my favorites spots and events in Charm City so far.

Freshman year my two biggest off-campus ventures were to Hampden (of course) and Red Emma's. Both of these locations are pretty well-known to Hopkins students, but I still meet people who've never walked along the Avenue or eaten a vegan burger while listening to an impassioned talk about housing rights.

What's more than that, I think that exploring the neighborhoods themselves (Station North, in the case of Red Emma's) beyond the shops and restaurants are what really makes the experience. Take a walk around North Avenue to explore historic theaters, check out an event in the Ynot Lot, and view incredible works of art.

One of my favorites is Graffiti Alley, just beyond North Howard Street. Sophomore year, when I was just beginning to explore the city for real, I used to spend the time before my classes at the Film Centre by trying to decode all the graffiti. I didn't succeed (obviously) but I still think of the Alley as something profoundly, wonderfully Baltimore.

Longtime readers of my columns (Here's to you, Woman at Pete's Grille who's always reading the B Section.) may recall that I have a love affair with museums, which really took off during my sophomore year.

One of my favorites in Baltimore is the American Visionary Arts Museum, which features annual, wildly themed exhibitions and pieces by artists who have no formal art training.

Less high-profile is the Lillie Carroll Jackson Civil Rights Museum in Madison Park, which pays tribute to the renowned civil rights leader of the same name. This museum isn't flashy — it's inside Jackson's former home. It is, however, an incredible look into the history of protest in Baltimore, and it ought to be a must-see for everyone who's just moved here.

It was in my junior year, however, that I actually began to explore Baltimore. I cut my teeth on the local arts scene — Four Hours of Funk at the Windup Space, indie performances at random cafes (of which there are too many for me to actually explain in detail here) and, of course, the film festivals.

Baltimore isn't New York City or Hollywood, but it truly has one of the most precious film scenes I've ever experienced. One of my favorite festivals is in Little Italy, where you watch movies in a parking lot, projected onto the side of a restaurant.

## A changing perspective after one year in Baltimore

By ARIELLA SHUA  
Your Weekend Editor

Baltimore has nothing to offer me.

Before arriving at Hopkins, this thought constantly passed through my mind and was one of the main reasons that I was dreading the beginning of college.

I had spent years hearing about the amazing quality of the college town. Even though a college may be in the middle of nowhere, the town that springs up around it is perfect for young adults to enjoy. Or it may be a beloved, youthful city, busily swarming with students and with plenty of options for entertainment.

The majority of my high school friends were heading to one or the other of these college town options.

I felt alone, thinking that Hopkins didn't really have either one.

It made matters worse that my parents were not thrilled with the fact that I was Baltimore bound. They warned me to watch my back, to stick to safe neighborhoods close to

campus, and to travel either with friends or during the day.

So you could say that I wasn't too excited.

Looking back now, with only a few weeks until the official conclusion of my freshman year, I can't believe how much my perspective has changed.

I now know that Baltimore is nothing short of amazing.

It took me more than an entire semester to realize it, however. During my first months on campus, I was the typical freshman, playing right into the Hopkins bubble stereotype. I stuck to Honeygrow and Chipotle for "fine" dining, and the only times I ventured far off campus I hit up the most touristy spot around, the Inner Harbor. If I was having a night out, it was probably at a friend's apartment or sometimes at a frat house.

Over winter break, I decided to actually start living in Baltimore — not just physically, but by actually becoming a member of the City.

So I began to explore.



COURTESY OF RENEE SCAVONE

A streetside view of ship masts under a rainbow at the Inner Harbor.

I'll never forget watching *The Godfather* with total strangers that my friends and I met after asking to borrow one of their lawn chairs, all of us together humming along to the guitar theme.

I also began to explore the flora and fauna — I took many a long walk through Druid Hill Park and started attending Bike Parties. I began to appreciate just traveling through the City, taking in the sights and sounds with no particular goal or end destination.

In the midst of an incredibly stressful third year of college, I found Baltimore to be a city of secret alcoves, hole-in-the-wall bars and restaurants and underrepresented culture.

Perhaps the most important decision I made during my college experience was to carve out a space for myself as a real resident instead of retreating to the library and Hopkins bubble. When senior year came around, I felt as though I had to save all of my friends from spending four years here and seeing nothing more of Baltimore than Charles Village and the Inner Harbor.

So I started to take people to places I knew were easy sells: getting fresh breakfast at Jack & Zach's in Mount

Vernon and then wandering through the Walters Art Museum, catching a show at Single Carrot Theater in Remington, or visiting the new location of The Book Thing in Waverly.

What they say is true: Baltimore really is a city of neighborhoods, and it is so, so worth it to take the time to explore. If you don't have some place you really, really love here, that means you just haven't found the right one.

Some of the most perfect memories I have are of riding my bike down Guilford Avenue to Little Italy in the summer and just watching the neighborhoods go by, of meeting people by chance while waiting for the Charm City Circulator in unfamiliar parts of town, of building up rapport with local vendors at farmers' markets all over the City.

Ultimately I think that my experience at Hopkins was made better — much better — by virtue of living in Baltimore. The City has become my safe haven, my study break and my home. I don't know where I'm headed after graduation or whether I'll ever live here again. But I already can't wait to come back and experience even more of all that Charm City has to offer.

each other. One is Station North, south of campus. The entire area has an artsy feel to it, and I especially love the Charles Theatre, which feels antique in a way that no movie theater at home can replicate.

My other treasured location is Sherwood Gardens, a 15 minute walk north of campus. Free for all, its tulip garden is a perfect, serene haven from hectic school life.

I went from barely being able to walk down North Charles alone once the sun had set, to enjoying my stroll through the relative peace and quiet of a weeknight, as well as the excited energy of the weekends.

Even though none of us really seem to think of it as a college town (except, to my surprise, Wikipedia), Baltimore is our home while we're here. I hope to continue taking advantage of being here while I can. It took me a whole semester to learn how to escape the Hopkins bubble. Hopefully I'll be able to make up for the lost time over the next three years.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Post Malone's *Beerbongs and Bentleys* falls short Student talent featured in the Witness showcase



DREW YORKE-SLADER/CC BY 2.0  
Post Malone's latest album doesn't live up to his previously released music.

By **NIKITA SHTARKMAN**  
Staff Writer

I have long thought that Post Malone was underrated. His first song, "White Iverson," blew up and he was almost universally considered a one hit wonder. But he kept making hits. He quickly built up a loyal fanbase. His first album — *Stoney* — was a great project. Each song on that album does something different and fun. Post found a way to do the thing that rappers had been trying to do for years: combine the country and rock aesthetic with hip hop.

Unfortunately with his newest project, Post gives up the experimentation and uniqueness of his last project. *Beerbongs & Bentleys*, which sports one of the best album titles of the past few years, is a long, drawn-out and fairly boring experience.

Every beat on this album sounds like a generic trap beat with detuned synths and loud 808s. There are no crazy samples, no ear-catching hooks, nothing that makes you want to listen to it again.

Post attacks every track the same exact way. He writes a simple, melodic hook. Post is phenomenal, and I mean phenomenal at writing hooks. His consistency is paralleled only by Rae Sremmurd — then come a few verses. These are usually basic and slow. The songs that come from this aren't bad per se, just generic and boring. Sonically everything is pleasant and well-thought-out, but playing the album in succession makes it blatantly obvious how formulaic each record is.

"Stay" is one of the few songs that diverges from the prototype. While it isn't my favorite Post song, it at least showcases his power as a singer-songwriter. With just an acoustic guitar backing, Post belts out notes with ease. This is one of the few moments on the project where it felt like Post was doing something of interest.

I really wish he did more of that. I had very high hopes for this project. From the name to the branding to the general career trajectory, I expected Post to dive deeper into his character — and I was invested in the cigarette smoking, Bud Light drinking artist. Unfortunately, Post decided to follow the formula that made "Rockstar" go global, to the point that he lost the rebellious things he was just starting to explore with *Stoney*.

If you like the current

trend of melodic rap with simple lyricism and hard beats — this album will fill that need perfectly. It is an immaculately produced, generic piece of hip hop. I just want Post to realize that he can create hits without succumbing to the formula. "Go Flex" off his last album shows how his unconventional style can generate a great radio hit, one that only he could have made.

I think that the true Post Malone shines in looser, less polished songs. My favorite Post Malone song continues to be "Feeling Whitney." It is one of the most vulnerable, touching and melodically-loaded songs by a hip hop artist.

On the very other side of the spectrum, almost unknown experimental rapper Denmark Vessey dropped a project called *Sun Go Nova*. Vessey is best

known for his features on songs by Quelle Chris. His new project is just as hectic, experimental and exciting as I expected.

*Sun Go Nova* was entirely produced by Earl Sweatshirt and Knxwledge. The beats here are wild, even for those two. The samples are super filtered and heavily chopped. Kicks and snares are crunchy and always just a bit off beat. Time gets stretched and slowed with no regard to tempo.

The way that Vessey raps is absolutely unique. He is wildly clever, his flow is smooth and light, and he somehow manages to follow even the most off-kilter beats. Sometimes it seems like he isn't even rapping as much as he is just interjecting one-liners between samples and drum hits.

The lyrics on this project are a joy to listen to. Vessey and all of his features have this great talent for being insightful, introspective and absolutely hilarious.

The lyricism, the beats and the other sound effects combine to create some phenomenal moments. "Sellout" has one of the best beat pauses of all time. The instrumental goes silent after a gunshot. DrxQuinnx appears on the track yelling, "Hoes on my dick I pray to Based God." On the same

song, Vessey raps, "The Hollywood reboot of *Roots* / Titled 'Suits' / That recast Tobey Maguire as the lead." There are dozens of gems like this hidden across the various verses on this project.

The second half of the project is completely instrumental. This is a weird decision, but for some reason it works perfectly. The beats transition flawlessly into each other, and they all seem to represent specific parts of a musical journey.

Part of me wishes that Vessey rapped over the instrumentals at the end. Some of them, like "High Noon Titan" almost beg for bars. Another part of me appreciates the musical sparseness of the beats by themselves. It is hard to say which part wins, but either way, the album sounds great.

From start to finish, *Sun Go Nova* is a rollercoaster. Vessey seems to avoid even the most basic rules of song making. Songs start and stop erratically. Movie samples and sound effects bubble above the mix. Verses are almost completely random: Joke lines lead into serious lines, which lead into other jokes. It is a beautiful cacophony that you want to get lost in again and again, contrary to what Post has settled into. I've been hooked on this album since the very first listen.

## Betrayal breaks form of traditional play

By **COLE DOUGLASS**  
Staff Writer

This past weekend, students of the Theatre Arts and Studies program performed *Betrayal*, a play by Harold Pinter that explores the dynamics of an affair, in the John Astin Theatre.

The play focuses on two lovers, Emma (senior Dikachi Osaji) and Jerry (junior David Gumino) over the course of nine years, from the beginning of their relationship in 1968 to a day two years after the affair has ended. However, the story opens on the day that Jerry discovers that Robert (senior Josh Langfus) — his best friend and Emma's husband — knows about their previous affair and proceeds backwards in time from there.

"I wouldn't say it was difficult per se," said Osaji when asked about the potential challenges of learning and performing a show in reverse. "[James Glossman, the director] had a very good idea, which was the first time, the first couple of times we did it in its entirety, we ran it backwards. We did it from the earliest, first chronological event — which is actually the last scene — up until the first scene... which really helped with our character development and why we're saying what we're saying."

The audience doesn't have that luxury, and the main enjoyment of the show is the act of understanding the story, of slotting events into the timeline and realizing just how the scene currently being

performed affects the characters across the earlier ones. There's a biting moment late in the play where Emma corrects Jerry when he misremembers an encounter between their two families. It seems innocuous until you remember that she had to correct him again earlier (from the audience's perspective) in the play, and suddenly the echo takes on a much more painful tint.

As a matter of fact, most of the play centers on the idea of knowledge: who knows about the affair and who knows that they know about the affair and so on and so on. The first few times that we see Robert and Jerry interact are incredibly tense, since the audience and Robert know about the affair while Jerry does not know that we possess that knowledge.

Slowly over the course of the play, the tension is replaced by a somber sadness as the narrative shifts to the happier moments that occurred early on in the affair. We see the flat rented by the two lovers — abandoned early in the show when the affair falls apart — become filled with love and affection; we see the relationship between Robert and Jerry shift away from the bitterness that pervaded their initial interactions toward true friendship. The enjoyment of understanding the characters is replaced by the sorrow that their happiness won't last and that they'll turn into the bitter characters that begin and/or end the play.

In an interview with

Roger Ebert in 1983, Pinter emphasized the important role that knowledge takes in the play, stating that, "The shape of the whole thing was what interested me primarily — starting in the present and ending at the beginning. I wanted to explore how it would feel, for myself as well as for the audience, to observe a love affair in which, at every moment, we all knew more than the participants."

Overall, the cast more than excelled at playing with and exploring that theme. Osaji and Gumino did an excellent job of developing the relationship between their characters, so that the emotional core of the story hit home, even in reverse.

Likewise, Langfus' portrayal of Robert really heightened the tension in the earlier scenes, making sure that his pointed comments always kept the audience and the other characters a little on edge. Finally, though only in a single scene, sophomore Sebastian Durfee was absolutely hilarious, providing a much-needed burst of levity as the show transitioned into its more bitter-sweet and romantic scenes.

All in all, it was a truly excellent performance done through a thought-provoking and interesting narrative explored by a very talented cast. "We're very excited and very happy that people are coming out to see it," said Osaji. "It's been a two month journey since we started — from auditions to putting it up — and it has been fantastic."

By **RUDY MALCOM**  
Staff Writer

Witness Theater presented their spring showcase in Arellano Theater on Thursday, April 26, and Friday, April 27. The show, produced by junior Sarah Linton, featured five 10-minute student-written, student-directed plays.

Linton explained that the spring show is traditionally a challenge due to space limitations. In the past, Witness has put on a 24-hour show, but this season's showcase allowed some novice actors and directors to gain experience. (A 10-minute show is a more manageable commitment than a full-length play.)

This allows busier or perhaps less experienced students to get involved. For example, freshman Reid Bradshaw was in charge of Lighting Design.

Linton elaborated on the advantages of staging in Arellano.

"It's a black box theater, so it's very flexible, which invites people and directors... to push the actors to really work with the material of the play instead of relying on props or a really fancy set," Linton said.

Technical Director senior Ryan Kunzer echoed these sentiments.

"Since there's not a whole lot else going on, it really focuses in on them," Kunzer said. "It's a very intimate space."

*Floor Scrub*, written by junior Jaeyoung Lee and directed by junior Matt Mullner and sophomore Brandon Lim, depicts a televised interview between Stephanie (senior Elizabeth Winkelhoff) and competitive floor-scrubbing champion Alex (sophomore Enrique Oliva).

Alex doesn't share Stephanie's enthusiasm, however. The tone in which he says "happy to be here" gives Eeyore a run for his money.

At the commercial break, Stephanie sheds her bubbly exterior and compares Alex's personality to "wilted spinach."

He says that he just wants to be able to enjoy floor scrubbing as a hobby, but Stephanie needs their interview to be interesting so that she can be promoted to government reporting.

When they return from the commercial break, the hilarious Camera Operator (freshman Aidan Smith) pans to them, and the two deliver the fake smiles of a prom couple planning on breaking up within the week. Eventually she chal-

lenges him to clean the whole studio.

While doing so, he confesses that he feels his life "trickling into nothing."

"How is it that the only thing I'm good at is a fucking household chore?" he asks.

But after Stephanie storms away and the Camera Operator puts down the camera, Alex seems to find purpose. The Camera Operator calls Alex a "master craftsman."

Although Alex previously deemed a magically powerful bleach solvent an "impossibility," the Camera Operator tells him that Alex had unknowingly created it long ago.

Alex takes on the Camera Operator as his first apprentice and advises him on how to maximize torque.

Stephanie reenters and apologizes.

"We're all just trying to do important work, something meaningful," Alex says before she cuts him off.

*Floor Scrub* was an entertaining satire of sports coverage and attitudes toward hobbies and professions.

The second play, *What Matters*, written by sophomore Laura Oing and directed by junior Ceci Freed, also focused on an athlete — one who had been dead for almost a year.

Freshman Becky Shade, who plays the deceased athlete's volatile sister Haley, believes that interpreting others' feelings is a valuable skill she's honed through working with Witness.

"I experience sadness and anger so rarely that I had to dig all the way down to my ankles to find them," Shade said.

But before Haley graces the stage, Eddie (sophomore Carver Bain) assures a Boy (Oliva) that everything will be okay. The Boy exits the stage as Haley arrives and sits down next to Eddie, who introduces himself.

"I'm... just here to see the principal," Haley snarls, holding a hand to her black eye. But the voice in which she then says "I'm Haley" is kinder; she's someone compassionate hiding grief under hostility, someone who nearly cries after reminiscing about the brother she idolized.

She explains that her teacher asked her, "Would Timothy be proud to have a sister who doesn't even try anymore?" Outraged, she slammed her locker, which gave her a black eye. She's waiting for the Principal (Winkelhoff)

SEE WITNESS, PAGE B4



COURTESY OF SHARON MAGUIRE  
Students perform in Witness Theater's latest showcase of short plays.

## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Witness presents student plays at Arellano Theater

WITNESS, FROM B3

because she threw her shoe at someone who laughed at her.

She displays another moment of sensitivity when she expresses desire for a sign from Timothy.

After the principal summons her, Eddie takes out a newspaper, which, according to Shade,

reveals that Eddie is also dead. The Boy reappears and takes a blue raspberry lollipop (Timothy's favorite flavor), explains that he's saving his visit for

**"It's definitely serious... but there's also a level of fun and making theater fun."**

— ELIZABETH WINKELHOFF, SENIOR

another day and leaves a ball on the bench for Haley — all of which confirm that he's Timothy. Haley can't help but finally smile when she finds the ball waiting for her.

The play had a well-crafted progression and made excellent use of comic relief. Eddie's delicate pauses while talking about Timothy hint at a romantic relationship between the two and were a nice touch.

But perhaps I'm just making up a story, as Julia (sophomore Nayanika Iyer) and Olivia (freshman Zubia Hasan) do in *Garbage Game*, written by freshman Cristina Fernandez and directed by freshman Sana Kamboj.

They create competing narratives about jousts and Dorito-bag-measured athleticism to explain objects in Olivia's yard — from bubblegum to a bong — that Tracy (junior Caroline Halligan) and Scott (freshman Michael McEvoy) act out.

The show was an amusing and creative representation of the power of the imagination. Hasan gave an electric performance.

In the third play, *What We Talk About When We Talk About Not Wanting to Fuck Each Other*, written by senior Isaac Lunt and directed by senior Sharon Maguire, Greg (junior Sam Norwood) tries to use his imagination to set a romantic mood with his girlfriend Sid (senior Kelsey Harper).

He sings and dances along to Marvin Gaye's "Let's Get It On" and goes so far as to ask her if they "should bang."

She reveals that she's too stressed and doesn't have the energy.

"I'm broken. My vagina's gonna withdraw into itself until it reaches my throat and suffocates me," she says.

He responds by telling her about his erectile dysfunction.

"We should be more open with each other. It sounds so stupid and obvious now that I've said it," she says as they embrace. The couple's rawer moments, including a food fight, made this mildly cliché ending more endearing.

The final play, *First and Last*, written by junior Giovanna Molina and directed by Lunt, also emphasized the use of specific

moments to portray relationships.

First, Walter (freshman Jonah Faccioli) meets and consoles Karen (senior Emily Su) in the movie theater. Next, Karen stands at Lisa's (sophomore Julia Bernal) bedside in the former's apartment. It is revealed that Karen

had been upset because Lisa told her that she had cancer during the film's opening credits. Their various emotions about the discussion of the diagnosis are well-wrought.

In the next scene, Walter and Karen consider their

breakup and Lisa's death; I would've appreciated more context.

The final scene was a flashback in which Karen and Lisa first meet by bonding over a painting. I believe that I might've understood the symbolism more had the scenes been more developed, but the show was highly evocative nonetheless.

Winkelhoff commented on the beauty of *Witness*.

"It's definitely serious and an environment that fosters creativity, which I really appreciate, but there's also a level of fun and making theater fun for everyone," she said.

Kunzer, also graduating this spring, remarked on a bittersweet aspect of the showcase.

"It's really the next generation's time to shine and our last chance to teach them what to do," he said.

## Center for Visual Arts director will retire this year



COURTESY OF SARAH SUKARDI

The Mattin Center became the hub for the Center for Visual Arts in 2001 after moving from Hodson Hall.

By JACOB TOOK  
Managing Editor

Craig Hankin enrolled at Hopkins as a pre-med undergraduate in 1972. That first semester, he bombed his chemistry and calculus midterms and switched his major to History of Art.

This semester he announced his retirement after 32 years as the director of the Center for Visual Arts.

After graduating early in 1975, Hankin studied at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), where he earned his MFA in painting in 1979. At MICA, he taught four classes a week, and he looked for an opportunity to continue teaching after graduating. Landscape painter Eugene Leake, then-director of the Homewood Art Workshops, offered him the chance to teach a drawing class.

"Timing and luck — so much of life comes down to that," Hankin said. While Hankin was still an undergrad, the University hired Leake to open the Homewood Art Workshops, a series of non-credit evening workshops that attracted students, faculty and a group of the wives of faculty members who called themselves the

Little Old Ladies in Tennis Shoes.

Hankin knew that they had to offer classes for credit if they wanted to build attendance. The workshop groups would start enthusiastically but would lose energy when midterms hit.

"They'd start to disappear a little bit because they had work to do for their regular classes, and often by finals the attrition rate would have been as high as 40 or 50 percent," he said. "Kids would just stop coming because they were committed to other work."

Though Hankin said that they met little resistance trying to make the classes credited, he added that it was a gradual process.

"When we finally got to the point where we were teaching five classes a week — that seemed like a big accomplishment," he said. "When we started adding classes that weren't drawing and painting, that also was a mark of significant growth."

When they first added photography classes, the program didn't have a darkroom to develop film. To improvise, they would send the photos out to be developed each week.

"It was very makeshift," Hankin said. "Our pro-

gram has always had a sort of DIY quality to it."

He said that lack of space has always been a challenge. The program moved from a studio in the basement of Merryman Hall, a building now known as Hodson Hall, into the Mattin Center in 2001.

The move doubled their space, and Hankin said that their budget nearly doubled as well so they could hire new faculty and add new classes. According to Hankin, the program underwent a few years of relief after leaving the Merryman "dungeon." However, it wasn't long before they ran into the same problems with lack of resources.

"Our waitlists began to increase again, and without additional financial support I pretty quickly realized that we were going to go through the same sort of cycle," he said. "We'd be able to do more than we had before but not as much as we would like."

He said that he hoped the program would be able to acquire studio space off-campus to increase their space, add a ceramics studio and expand their digital photo lab, adding that there were times when he felt as though the arts were not a priority at Hopkins.

"The University loves the idea of having the arts on campus," he said. "They just seem to have a problem paying for it. The arts cost money like anything else — it doesn't happen by magic. I've gotten very good over the years at doing a lot with very little."

Last year, the University rejected Hankin's proposal to rent about 5,000 square feet of space in Station North.

As a third generation Baltimorean, Hankin has deep roots in the Baltimore arts community. He said that young people in the Baltimore arts scene are fighting for arts in the City. "The arts are always a bastard stepchild," Hankin said. "They always have to fight hardest for the little piece of turf that they get and for whatever small voice they finally have at the table."

He said that even something as simple as a mural could help the morale of people who live in neighborhoods struggling with crime, drugs and other problems.

According to Hankin, the University is in a position to do more.

"Hopkins has an opportunity through the arts to really have a positive effect and impact on the parts of Baltimore that are constantly struggling," he said. "Our program stands ready to help them do more. We always have."

Struggles aside, Hankin said that he has loved coming in every day to work with Hopkins students, who he says he understands because he was one.

"I feel like I've been the beneficiary of their intelligence and their talent all along," he said. "I consider myself beyond fortunate to have had this job."

## Mobb Deep's *The Infamous*: the album that got me through Hopkins



TRAMLINES FESTIVAL / CC BY 2.0

Released in 1995, Mob Deep's album *The Infamous* remains relevant today.

By WILL KIRSCH  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

I'd like to preface this article by saying that I am an incredibly privileged person who was lucky to have the means and opportunity to pursue a college education. Many people do not get the same chances I got, and I realize that they might be happy to be in my position. But with that said, college was fucking miserable. Of course misery is relative, but I think I pretty much bottomed out around a half a dozen times over the last four years.

Now, it's all coming to an end. Four years of stress, doubt and self-hatred are culminating in a six-hour long ceremony where some asshole gives me a piece of paper. Then there I'll be, with a degree, an unclear future and the already rotten structure of my mental

health dangerously close to total collapse. So in lieu of thinking about that grim prospect, I'm going to talk about some music that got me to this point.

It's hard to pick a favorite album, like really fucking hard. There's a lot of music out there and you can never be certain what you might come across. But over the last four years, I've consistently returned to one album no matter what: Mobb Deep's *The Infamous*.

Released in 1995, *The Infamous* planted itself squarely in the midst of a seminal decade for hip hop. In the span of 10 years, a couple dozen genre-defining albums and artists broke onto the scene, and that was just in New York. But even though it isn't the most recognizable or popular work from that era, *The Infamous* has a value well

beyond its accessibility.

What the Queensbridge duo of Havoc and Prodigy created was many things. It was equal parts a gritty landscape of 90s New York, a joint autobiography of two young black men's struggles, and a beautifully crafted artistic experiment that perfectly combined haunting but melodic beats with monotone, matter-of-fact rhymes.

I, however, am neither black nor poor, nor do I live in New York. Thus, I can hardly claim any real connection with the stories that Havoc and Prodigy tell, although they are both truly great storytellers. What I do feel in this album though are the base emotions that it evokes. Indeed, this is the value of a story; you don't have to have any real experience of the subject matter to feel a connection with it.

*The Infamous* spans the emotional range both in its lyrics and its production, switching from defiant aggression to hopelessness and rage then back again to defiance. Lyrically, Prodigy stands out as the better storyteller of the two. Born Albert Johnson, Prodigy was afflicted with sickle cell anemia for his entire life, which ended last summer. He was 42 when he died.

In a discussion on the

podcast *Drink Champs*, hosted by N.O.R.E. — another Queens native and one-half of the classic duo Capone-N-Noreaga — several of Prodigy's contemporaries have said that his illness gave his lyrics an emotional weight beyond their objective meaning.

They have a point. Prodigy's lyrics are fatalist and at times nihilistic, yet also full of life. Prodigy tells his story with the voice of someone who knows he could die any day. His words and style of rhyming have an inherent strength, seemingly a facet of how close he was to death at all times and his refusal to just lay down and die.

That strength is what makes his music so great; no matter how bleak his life looked, Prodigy approached and spoke about the challenges facing him with characteristic defiance.

Not to discount Havoc's ability as a rapper, but his lyrics were somewhat overshadowed by his production. Havoc's beats, much like Prodigy's lyrics, were deceptively straightforward and simple: Bare piano chords, steady bass and uncomplicated drums all joined together to create a bleak and foreboding sonic landscape.

Havoc, whose real name is Kejuan Muchita, is recognized as having

not only helped create the Mobb Deep sound, but also having helped to define hardcore hip hop. He made beats that took hardship and made it beautiful, reusing soulful melodies and breaking them down into their constituent parts until they became unyielding and aggressive.

The production on *The Infamous* was lyrical in itself. The way Havoc stitched together different samples defined the group's unique style and gave voice to the emotional impetus behind the music. It would be impossible to imagine Prodigy without Havoc or vice versa. That'd be like Drake without a ghostwriter; they need each other to exist.

Like I said, I'll never know what it was like to be Havoc and Prodigy; I've never lived a life like they did, for which I am grateful. But *The Infamous* is an important album for me because it made music out of all the feelings I couldn't express. It was there when I was angry, when I was sad, when I was frustrated, when I was stressed, when I couldn't really think of any reason to even try. So basically fuck you, The Last Four Years, and I'll be walking across the stage with "Survival of the Fittest" playing on a loop in my head.

# Avengers: Infinity War is next in exciting series

By LUIS CURIEL  
Staff Writer

“It’s the end of the path I started us on.” Those are the words we hear Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) say to Nick Fury (Samuel L. Jackson) in *Avengers: Age of Ultron* after Ultron and the Maximoff twins manage to defeat the team in their first encounter.

At the time of that film, it made sense for Tony to create something that would allow him and the rest of his team to lead the lives they so desperately desire.

Even though it backfired in the worst way possible, Ultron did serve as our lead in this year’s *Avengers: Infinity War*.

Vision, a creation of Ultron, carries the Mind Stone right on his forehead. It’s the source of all his power and, in *Age of Ultron*, Thor manages to dump a little history about said stones throughout the film. All we know, however, is that they are allegedly super powerful.

The third *Thor* film *Ragnarok* leads straight into the opening of *Infinity War*, which implies that it was always Marvel’s plan to have Thor be the first one to figure out exactly what the Infinity Stones are.

The opening 10 minutes of the film set up the stakes — the strongest Avenger(s)

versus Thanos (who already happens to have one Infinity Stone). It’s emblematic for the rest of the film, and once this two-hour movie kicks off, it doesn’t stop.

Every character featured in the film is introduced in a way that feels organic to the story and in character to who they are in their own individual films.

However, if you expect to follow one hero throughout the story then you’re going to be disappointed.

The focus here is on Thanos. After all, we don’t re-

plan — it’s based on population biology (shoutout to Thomas Malthus) — and his people suffering the consequences of overpopulation.

He carries the film as we follow him through the cosmos on his quest to find the stones. His relationship with Gamora, however, feels a little difficult to believe. Yes, we know her backstory and how much she hates him, but it’s one of those instances where the emotional bond is more told than shown.

*Infinity War* also does a good job of making Thor one

of, if not the, best Avengers. He’s one of the few characters throughout the movie that gets a character arc, and it’s one that is an extension from *Ragnarok* and

allows Hemsworth to use his charisma and comedic abilities to the benefit of the film as a whole.

The rest of the performances are what you’d expect from these actors, roles they’ve been playing for years that are all familiar now.

Perhaps the biggest problem with *Infinity War* is it’s own dependence on familiarity. If you’ve seen

This film is full of surprises, genuinely leaving you questioning how they can follow this up.

# Kanye West makes controversial return to spotlight

By SAMUEL FARRAR  
Social Media Editor

After returning to Twitter in mid-April, Kanye West has been stirring up a lot of discussion among his fans and haters alike. This renewed interest in Kanye’s image culminated in a series of tweets in which he espoused his love for Donald Trump, tweeting, “We are both dragon energy. He is my brother,” and showing off his signed Make America Great Again hat. The public reaction was intense.

Of course, Trump supporters rejoiced after finding a black celebrity who supported the president, while the vast majority of Kanye’s fan base raked him over the coals for identifying himself with a movement so often synonymous with white supremacy.

Many other African-American celebrities, such as John Legend, denounced Kanye’s tweets.

Kanye responded to this string of criticism in the first track he released off his upcoming album, “Ye vs. the People.”

It is set up as a back and forth between Kanye and

featured rapper T.I., who voices the concerns and criticisms of Kanye’s following, as Kanye attempts to defend himself and justify his actions.

The track draws heavy influence from T.I.’s own take on the format, “T.I vs T.I.P.” in which the cool business man T.I. and his hardcore hustler alter-ego T.I.P. try to reconcile their differences.

But while this track concludes in general agreement and peace between the rapper’s two egos, in “Ye vs. the People,” Kanye is perfectly content with cutting off the track without either side coming closer to agreement.

The production of the song creates a stellar stage for the debate to take place. In the style that made him famous, Ye uses a sample from the 60s R&B Motown legends Four Tops’ song “7-Rooms of Gloom” to create a soulful but surprisingly serious tone.

He splices up lyrics in the sample to create a beat revolving around the lines, “I watch a phone I had for us, and turned my dreams into dust,” a reflection on both the disappointment fans felt in Kanye as his

controversial tweets came out and the respective disappointment Kanye felt in his fans’ widespread denouncement.

Kanye’s argument for his actions on the track is based upon his recent identification with the free-thought philosophical viewpoint, claiming in the track, “ain’t goin’ against the grain everything I fought for?”

This viewpoint holds that knowledge and truths should be independent of social norms or traditions, marking a fairly significant change from his previous work, which incorporated many religious themes.

Ye has embraced free-thought as a universal defense for any criticism he receives.

When John Legend messaged Ye encouraging him not to support Donald Trump, he responded “You bringing up my fans or my legacy is a tactic based on fear used to manipulate my free thought.”

Kanye extends his use of free thought in the track to criticize the black community. When T.I. tells Ye, “What makes you feel equal makes them feel evil,” he responds, “All blacks gotta be Democrats, man, we ain’t made it off the plantation.” Ye is arguing that, regardless of freedom by law, blacks are still oppressed through a self-imposed slave mentality.

It’s the communities’ lack of free thought and universal support of ideological tradition that results in much of the community’s strife.

Some hip-hop artists, such as Chance the Rapper, have reflected this sentiment, but many more have denounced it. This

every single movie and followed every single article, everything makes sense. But chances are people don’t flock to the theater to watch *Ant-Man* and some just don’t particularly care enough about these characters to remember what their powers are or how they joined the rest of the cast.

In addition to that, the film has to find that perfect balance between plot and characters, which you can’t fully find beyond the surface level idea of “stop Thanos because genocide is bad.”

Given that the film follows up *Ragnarok* and *Black Panther*, which both contain subtext that deals with imperialism and isolationism, you might think that *Infinity War* will have something deeper to bring to the table. Unfortunately, it doesn’t.

That’s not to say that *Infinity War* is not enjoyable as hell — it’s a bunch of your favorite superheroes fighting for their lives!

The film is full of surprises, genuinely leaving you questioning how they can follow this up. It’s a shame to call this a part one, at the very least this film feels like a sequel to the 18 films prior.

To quote *The Fairly Odd-Parents: Wishology*, this is the “Exciting Middle Part” and on May 3, 2019 we get the conclusion to this over 10-year-long project.

is because this particular view advocates working with the oppressor to bring about equality, rather than fighting them, a viewpoint that seems to only result in compliance with the oppressor.

Kanye does not stop there with his criticism of the community that birthed him. He asks “Is it better if I rap about crack? Huh? ‘Cause it’s cultural?” This clear oversimplification of the hip-hop community can only be seen as an attempt to distance himself from it.

Ye has been trying to move away from the identity of being solely a rapper since his third album in 2007, but he always maintained his connection to hip hop.

In abandoning hip hop, he is also abandoning the people he spoke up for for so long. In his 2010 track “So Appalled,” he says “Baldin’ Donald Trump, takin’ dollars from y’all,” defending the people and blaming their strife on those who exploit them.

In “Ye vs. the People,” he switches the blame, arguing that the pain is self-inflicted.

As one of the people who calls Kanye the greatest artist of our generation, I was greatly disappointed by the message in “Ye vs. the People.”

He takes a privileged approach to a style that is founded on the underprivileged speaking up. By attempting to abandon his past and the culture that birthed him, he is abandoning the weight it gave to his words.

Without it, it is hard to see Ye as anything besides just another rich public figure who has lost touch with the struggle and strife of real-world people.

# Studio North’s Grand Premiere proves a hit



COURTESY OF ABBY JOHNSON  
The executive board of Studio North poses at their 2018 Grand Premiere.

By SARAH SCHREIB  
Staff Writer

Studio North, a student-run organization designed to facilitate student filmmaking on campus, presented its 2018 Grand Premiere at the Parkway Theatre on Wednesday, April 25. The historic theater was packed with students, professors, families and community members eager to watch the work of student filmmakers who had received funding for their projects in the spring of 2017.

The evening began with senior Irving Nestor’s *Operation First Light*, a light-hearted, comedic journey through a battle between male and female campers at a sleepaway camp. The film opens with a group of young campers, all boys, preparing for the mounting “war” with the other group. They load their plastic guns and polish their other pretend weaponry. From there, we follow the boys through the battlefield as they try, and ultimately fail, to triumph over the girls.

The camera work adds to a mounting feeling of suspense throughout the film: The camera darts between the characters, zooms in on tense moments and runs after them through the fields. Sound also plays an important role as it brings us into the imagination of the young characters. As one of the campers, Cow, hides out in the cabin, we hear realistic explosions and gunshots booming on the outside.

The film was shot at a sleepaway camp in Thurmont, Md. In his introduction to the film, Nestor explained that the narrative was inspired by his time as a camp counselor at Camp Kesem, a nonprofit program organized in part by Hopkins students. Nestor elaborated on his vision for the film in an email to *The News-Letter*.

“I suppose the thing that got me going was that they were all just being really honestly intense in their seriousness,” he wrote. “For many of my boys it wasn’t a game but a serious battle of wills with many dramas and interpersonal elements woven in. So my film had to be at a summer camp for kids for that innocent intensity to come through.”

Nestor also commented on what he hopes audiences will come away with after seeing the film.

“I hope people remember what it’s like to be a kid and have nostalgia for the innocence of that time. The goal is to capture not only the sweetness, but also the drama and legitimate feelings of being young,” he wrote.

The next showing was of senior Bobby Peretti’s

*The Cyclist*. The film opens with shots of colorful Baltimore rowhouses; the cyclist of the title, a young boy named Carlo, bikes across the screen. The plot centers around Carlo’s desire to gather money to buy a dress for his babysitter Penelope. Throughout his journey we meet Penelope, friends of Carlo’s older brother, Carlo’s father and a Baltimore resident trying to find the money to pay his rent. We follow these characters as they work through budding romance, friendship, boredom and financial strife.

According to the film’s director of photography, junior Giovanna Molina, the crew scouted specific Baltimore locations together, driving around the City until they found a setting they liked.

Casting was also conducted throughout the City. In the formal Q&A session following the premiere, Peretti explained that he cast the roles of Carlo and Carlo’s father by sitting in the Waverly YMCA for hours until he found a father and son who were right for the parts.

The final presentation of the night was *Dollar at the Door*, a four-part web series created, written and directed by senior Kyra Lesser. While all four episodes will be released on YouTube, Lesser premiered the first episode, “P\*\*\*\* Pill,” and third episode, “Sheryl Goldberg,” at the Studio North event. The episodes follow the protagonist Kiki (Lesser) as she is inducted into her college’s improv comedy troupe, The Brewery. Lesser cast current and former Hopkins students as the eccentric members of The Brewery: seniors Phoebe Gennardo, Gabe Gaston and Isaac Lunt and alumna Tatiana Nya Ford.

More interested in pursuing a television format than film, Lesser received support for her project from both Studio North and the Saul Zaentz Innovation Fund.

She wrote the episodes over the summer of 2017, began pre-production in January of 2018 and shot the episodes in February.

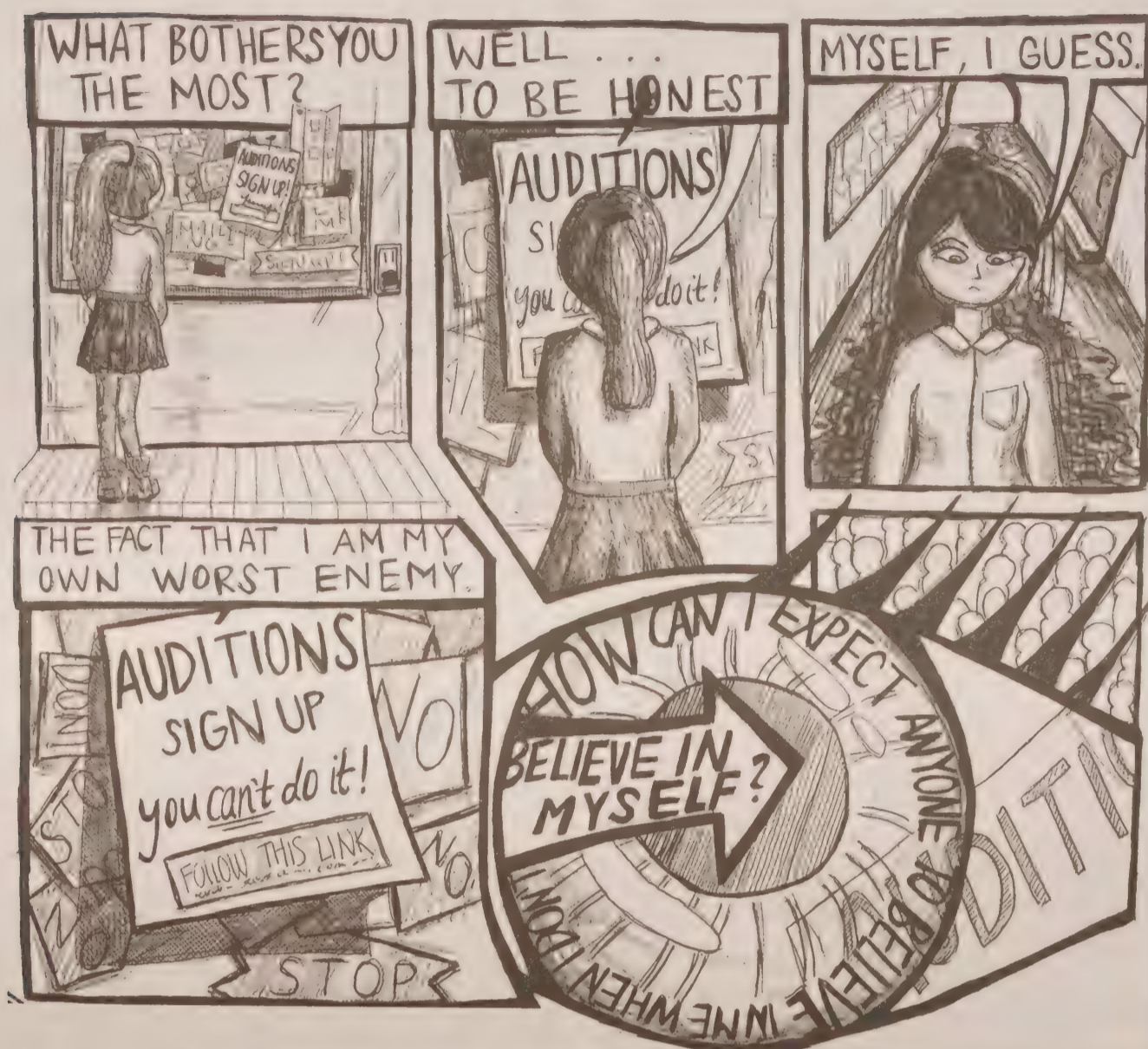
In an interview with *The News-Letter*, Lesser explained that the events of the series are loosely based on her time in the Hopkins improv troupe, The Buttered Niblets, as well as her college experience overall. She also commented on her hopes that audiences will be able to relate to the content of the series.

“I hope that they feel some sort of relatability to the college experience in general; that they can see themselves or their friends in one of the characters,” she said.



JASON PERSSE/CC BY-SA 2.0  
Kanye West has been the topic of debate since his return to the public eye.

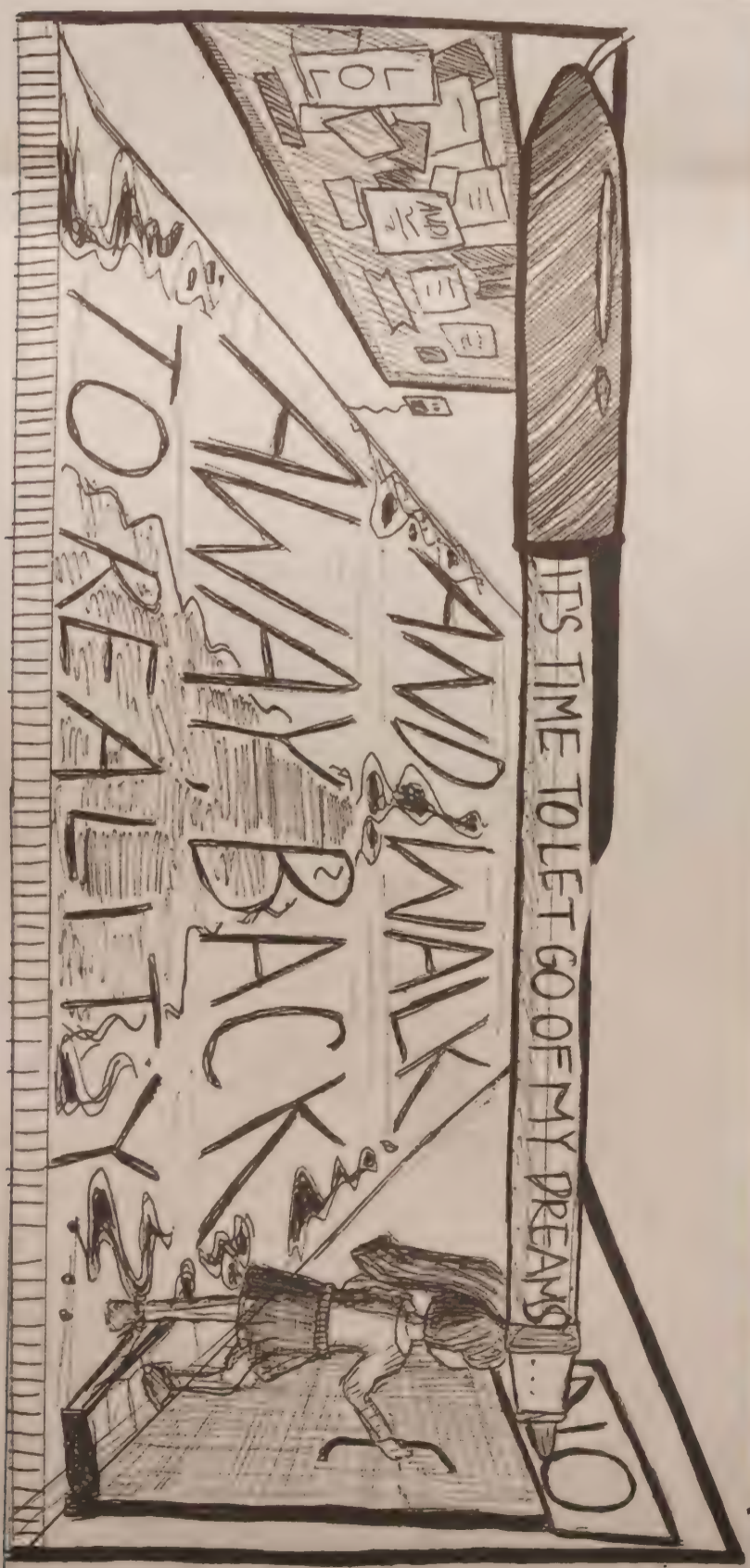
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# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Nobel laureate speaks about the origin of life



PUBLIC DOMAIN  
Nobel laureate Jack W. Szostak spoke at the annual John C. and Florence W. Holtz Lecture on Thursday, April 26.

By JONATHAN PATTERSON  
Staff Writer

Hopkins hosted its annual John C. and Florence W. Holtz Lecture on Thursday, April 26. Hosted by the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, this year’s lecture was delivered by Nobel laureate Jack W. Szostak.

Szostak has made notable contributions in the field of genetics. He was a pioneer in creating the world’s first artificial yeast

chromosome, which is a genetically engineered chromosome from the DNA of yeast. This research was crucial for the progression of the Human Genome Project, a decade-long quest to determine the complete set of nucleotide sequences that comprise human DNA.

He, along with Elizabeth Blackburn and Hopkins Hospital Professor Carol Greider, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 2009 for the discovery of how chromosomes are protected by telo-

meres, a specialized DNA sequence that caps both ends of a chromosome.

His lecture, entitled “The Origin of Cellular Life,” drew a large crowd that nearly filled the Hodson 110 lecture hall.

At the event, Szostak was first introduced by Hopkins’ Vice Provost for Research and Theophilus Halley Smoot Professor Dennis Wirtz.

Wirtz said the day was “extra special” because the University was able to host Szostak. Wirtz was also intrigued by Szostak’s lecture, and felt that even the title alone was thought-provoking.

Following Wirtz’s introduction, Szostak went on to describe what he hopes to learn from his own experi-

ments.

“My goal today is to talk about how we are doing very simple experiments in the lab to try to understand how the chemical building blocks of life assembled into the first living cells with the potential to evolve,” he said.

Szostak also discussing the importance that astronomy research plays in uncovering the origin of cellular life

Throughout the lecture, he proposed several questions to the audience, including “How were the building blocks of biology synthesized?” and “Cy- anide: the source of life’s building blocks?”

In addition, Szostak discussed how there a several crucial environmental conditions necessary in order to support life. Among these necessary features include a source of chemical energy, a cool climate with brief periods of high temperatures and finally, hydrothermal systems in places like lakes and ponds.

Currently Szostak is a principal investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Massachusetts General Hospital, as well as a professor of Genetics at Harvard University and Harvard Medical School.

The lecture concluded with an audience-interactive session, which included a question about how potential alien life would be different from life on Earth.

## Space@Hopkins hosts its second symposium

By JAEMIE BENNETT  
Science & Technology Editor

Space@Hopkins held its second annual symposium on Friday, April 27. The Space@Hopkins program widely focuses on bringing the aspects of space-related research at Hopkins to one central location.

The program began when Hopkins put out a call for new initiatives. Director of Space@Hopkins Charles Bennett said that idea for a program centered around space came easily

“A bunch of us thought, the space theme is a no-brainer,” he said.

Hopkins has a long, rich history with space-related research. Henry A. Rowland was a professor at Hopkins, the president of the American Physical Society and also the name-sake of the Hopkins Department of Physics and Astronomy. The New Horizons mission, which took the first close-up pictures of Pluto, was led by the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) jointly with the Southwest Research Institute.

Notably, Hopkins is responsible for taking the first photo of Earth from space, predicting the existence of cosmic microwave background radiation and is one of two universities to have

its own space flight center. It is also the only university to have a Space Telescope Science Institute, the operations center for the Hubble Space Telescope.

However, despite all the space-related research coming from Hopkins, Bennett said that there was a problem on campus with connecting staff and students who were interested in it.

“We have a lot of breadth, we have all this capability, yet we didn’t know each other,” he said.

Space@Hopkins fulfills the need for dialogue between the many departments involved in space-related research by providing a platform for them. The Space@Hopkins Symposium brought in diverse speakers from across campus in order to reflect these goals.

Sabine Stanley from the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences and the Applied Physics Laboratory explained her research studying planetary magnetic fields.

Planets regularly go through magnetic field reversals, and it seems Earth may be starting to reverse its own field. Stanley and her team hope to understand what is driving this change.

Ralph Etienne-Cummings has a background in electrical and

SEE SPACE, PAGE B9

## 3-D brains offer new way to study mental illnesses

By ISAAC CHEN  
Staff Writer

Characterized by symptoms such as delusions, hallucinations, and trouble with thinking and concentration, schizophrenia is a chronic and mental disorder that affects how one interacts with their surroundings.

Current statistics show that schizophrenia affects about one percent of the world’s population, regardless of racial, ethnic or socioeconomic background.

While there is currently no cure for schizophrenia, research has continued to develop new ways of understanding this disease. In fact, researchers at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) in Boston have recently used induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) and embryonic stem cells to develop 3-D cerebral organoids, which are artificially grown models of the brain.

They can then use the mini-brains to examine the neurodevelopmental effects

of a mutation in the gene DISC1 (Disrupted-In-Schizophrenia 1).

iPSCs are a type of stem cell that are derived from adult skin or blood cells. They have been reprogrammed back into states in which they can develop into any type of human cell. BWH’s study was published in *Translational Psychiatry* on April 12, 2018.

There are major benefits to having 3-D mini-brains. One of them is that studying a 3-D mini-brain can help us understand the cellular and molecular mechanism in psychiatric diseases. They also allow researchers to study the consequences of disease-associated mutations on brain development, something that they could not accomplish with traditional 2-D cell cultures.

Tracy Young-Pearse, head of the Young-Pearse Lab at the Ann Romney Center for Neurologic Diseases at BWH, is the senior author of the study.

SEE BRAIN, PAGE B9



PUBLIC DOMAIN  
Scientists have developed 3-D mini-brains to aid in studying brain development.

## ZIKA virus aids in the remission of brain tumors

By RACHEL HUANG  
Staff Writer

Brazilian researchers at the University of São Paulo’s Institute of Biosciences (IB/USP) have found a potential therapeutic effect of the Zika virus (ZIKV) in tumors of the human central nervous system (CNS).

The largest Zika virus outbreak began around October 2013 in French Polynesia before spreading to the Americas around April 2015, affecting millions of people. The Zika virus is a mosquito-borne disease spread by infected Aedes, a species of mosquitoes, or it can be sexually transmitted from an infected partner.

Approximately 75 percent of individuals infected by the Zika virus show little to no symptoms, and even those that do display symptoms no longer do so within seven days.

Common symptoms for those who do display them include conjunctivitis, mild fever, skin rash and joint pain.

The Zika virus is considered to be more dangerous to pregnant women than to the general public and, unfortunately, no cure or vaccine have yet been discovered for it.

Case observations have lead to an increased amount of evidence that links the Zika virus to a congenital birth disorder known as microcephaly. Babies born to Zika infected mothers are born with an abnormally small brain that doesn’t develop

properly.

The Zika virus, unlike most microbes, can pass from the blood to the brain and infect stem cells in the brain. This hinders proper development of the brain, leading to microcephaly in children.

Although the effects may seem bad at first, researchers used this trait — Zika’s ability to kill stem cells in the CNS — to their advantage. The deleterious effect may play a useful role in fighting deadly brain cancers caused by mutated stem cells.

“Our research and studies by other groups have shown that ZIKV causes microcephaly because it infects and destroys neural stem cells in the fetus, preventing the formation of new neurons,” Oswaldo Okamoto, a professor at IB/USP, said, according to *ScienceDaily*. “So, we had the idea of investigating whether the virus also attacked tumor stem cells in the CNS.”

In an experiment published in *Cancer Research* entitled “Zika Virus Selectively Kills Aggressive Human Embryonal CNS Tumor Cells In Vitro and In Vivo,” researchers injected a small dose of the Zika pathogen into mice with advanced human embryonal CNS tumors.

The mice showed a significant reduction in tumor size, with some showing complete elimination of the tumor and spinal metastases, and an increase in longevity compared to those who didn’t



PUBLIC DOMAIN  
The Zika virus, transmitted by mosquitoes, can help treat brain cancer.

receive the treatment.

“Zika has a greater affinity with CNS tumor cells than with healthy neural stem cells [the virus’s main targets in the brain of fetuses exposed during pregnancy],” Okamoto said. “When it infects tumor cells, it swiftly destroys them.”

Jeremy Rich, professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego, conducted a different study in which the Zika virus was used to treat a glioblastoma, one of the most common but most difficult brain cancers to treat.

Samples of human glioblastoma tumors were grown in a dish and then were later exposed to the Zika virus. Results showed that the Zika virus destroyed the cancer stem cells without infecting other healthy brain tissues.

When the experiment was reproduced in mice, researchers found that those injected with Zika were able to live longer. Under normal conditions, mice implanted with glioblastomas would die within a month. However, about four out of nine of the injected mice sampled were still alive after two months.

“All these results taken together suggest that various kinds of aggressive CNS tumors can be treated with some kind of approach involving Zika in the future,” Okamoto said. “However, we need to investigate more profoundly which tumor types respond to this oncolytic effect, what are the benefits of this treatment and what are the side-effects of exposure to the virus.”

Perhaps pathogens provide the key to discovering cures for cancer.

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

# Sharks should not get such a bad reputation



Catherine Palmer  
Guest Column

I'm not sure how, exactly, sharks became my favorite animal. I was 10 years old when they became my new obsession. Whatever the inspiration, I was hooked. I set out to learn as much as I could about them. And when I was 11, I started a PowerPoint in order to retain the facts I was gathering from books and TV specials.

I still update the PowerPoint to this day. So it bothers me when people try to paint sharks as man-hungry murdering machines. The facts simply aren't there.

According to *National Geographic*, "You have a one in 63 chance of dying from the flu and a one in 3,700,000 chance of being killed by a shark during your lifetime." And

yet, do we fear the flu? No. But we're convinced that we may very well be fatally attacked by a shark whenever stepping foot in the ocean. Yet the odds of that are 0.000017 percent lower.

From a psychological standpoint, it's actually somewhat understandable.

We don't fear something we've survived countless times, like the flu. We fear the unknown. However, we find a way to move past that fear. After all, millions of people still go swimming in the ocean every year, so we aren't letting the paranoia take over. But our paranoia isn't simply hurting sharks. It's actually killing them.

According to the Smithsonian Institution, humans kill "an estimated 100 million sharks" every year. In some countries, sharks are considered a delicacy. Their fins, in particular, are valued as the main component in the popular Chinese dish shark fin soup.

Aside from the issue of overfishing, the manner in which the fins are attained is particularly cruel.

Since the fins are the most prized part of the animal, fishermen often slice off sharks' fins and then simply throw the mutilated sharks back in the ocean. Unable to swim but not yet dead, the sharks are left to suffer unimaginable pain before either suffocating or bleeding out.

As a result of the shark fin trade, many shark species are endangered, with their endangered status

threatening not only their well being but also that of the entire ecosystem.

As top predators, imbalance in the shark population causes the food chain to become unstable, according to the Smithsonian. Biodiversity suffers.

Obviously it's not paranoia but greed that's driving the shark fin trade. Still, paranoia is preventing more resistance from forming against the business of shark fin fishing.

The practice is banned in the United States and many other countries. But clearly it will not end anytime soon if more measures aren't taken to stop it.

It's much easier to stand against the poaching of cuddly, more familiar animals than it is to protest the brutal slaughter of sharks. It's easier to defend killing sharks. It's happened before.

*Jaws* was first brought to life by Peter Benchley as a

**It bothers me when people try to paint sharks as man-hungry murdering machines.**

novel in 1974 before being turned into the iconic blockbuster the following year by Steven Spielberg with a screenplay co-written by Benchley.

Just as the citizens of Amity Island launch a shark hunt before ultimately killing the culprit behind the attacks, so, too, did America go on an anti-shark crusade. Benchley and Spielberg wanted to deliver horror, and they succeeded. Only later did Benchley at least consider the consequences.

In his final years, he became an advocate for shark conservation and began speaking out against sensationalizing shark attacks, the very practice he had built a career on. According to his obituary in the *Los Angeles Times*, Benchley admitted the harm that *Jaws* had done.

"Knowing what I know now, I could never write that book today. Sharks don't target human beings, and they certainly don't hold grudges," he said according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

So why, over 40 years later, are we still holding onto fear that was built on a lie? Yes, sharks kill. But they don't hunt humans.

Think about it this way. If you impulsively decided to jump into the tiger exhibit at the zoo, you would expect the tiger to attack, right? You're in their environment. You couldn't really blame the tiger.

Every time we set foot in the ocean, we are entering shark territory. If they wanted to track us down and eliminate us, they could quite easily. But the reality is, we're the ones tracking the sharks down and hunting them.

So who's really the bad guy?

# NASA launches a new satellite to detect planets

By JESSICA KASAMOTO  
Staff Writer

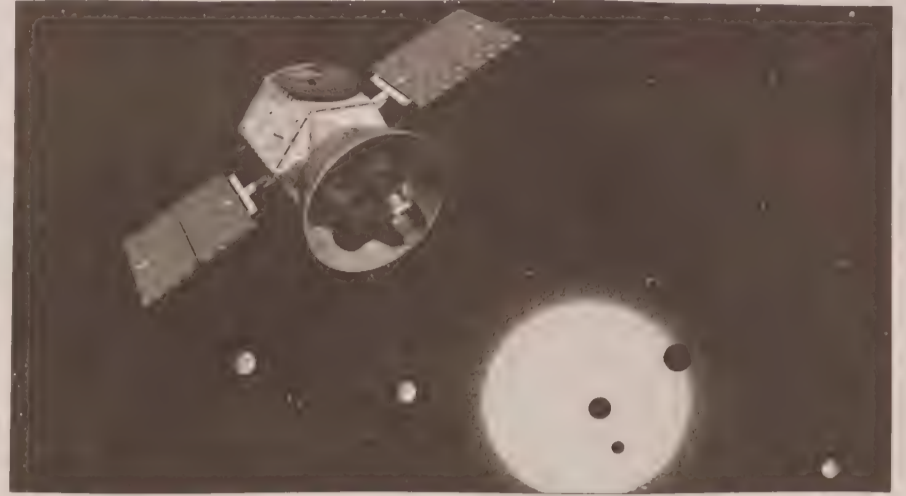
While the exploration of the solar system and the search for extraterrestrial life has been going on for decades, NASA recently took a huge step forward with the launch of the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS). Exoplanets are planets outside the solar system that orbit a star.

TESS, which lifted off at 6:51 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, April 18 from Space Launch Complex 40 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida, is an explorer-class planet-finder with the ability to detect planets of nearly all sizes. NASA's overall goal for TESS is to find planets with larger host stars so that the composition and atmospheres of those planets can be further studied.

TESS is now a NASA-based mission, although it initially began as a small, privately funded mission in 2006 backed by Google and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

MIT had originally proposed the TESS mission to NASA astrophysicists in 2008, although it wasn't selected by NASA until 2013. MIT's Kavli Institute for Astrophysics and Space Research still remains partnered with NASA on the mission.

For a few weeks after its initial launch, TESS will use thrusters to travel in elongated orbits before reaching the moon. Following two months of instrument testing with



PUBLIC DOMAIN

NASA, along with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, launched TESS, an exoplanet explorer.

NASA, the satellite will begin its work.

NASA plans for TESS to be in orbit for the next two years. During that time, NASA hopes for TESS to detect exoplanets in transit, the stage when a planet, from the satellite's view, is directly in front of the host star. According to scientists, TESS should detect about 1,500 during its flight.

For the purpose of this mission, scientists at NASA divided the sky into 26 sections; TESS will use four wide-field cameras to record observations from the first 13 sectors in the first year and the other 13 in the second year.

"One critical piece for the science return of TESS is the high data rate associated with its orbit," George Ricker, the TESS principal investigator at MIT's Kavli Institute for Astrophysics, said according to a press release from NASA. "Each

time the spacecraft passes close to Earth, it will transmit full-frame images taken with the cameras. That's one of the unique things TESS brings that was not possible before."

The *Kepler* mission, launched in 2009, was designed to survey the Milky Way Galaxy and discover thousands of Earth-sized planets. It has provided groundbreaking information about the population of many different exoplanets. However, the TESS mission is expected to provide even more detailed insight, because the stars that TESS will survey will be much brighter, making the planets easier to characterize.

Furthermore, TESS will get an even stronger analysis of the planets with surveys from the James Webb Space Telescope in addition to other larger ground-based telescopes.

Stephen Rinehart, a

project scientist from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, said that he was extremely excited about TESS' capabilities.

"The targets TESS finds are going to be fantastic subjects for research for decades to come," said Rinehart. "It's the beginning of a new era of exoplanet research."

While many may question the importance of funding for further space exploration missions like TESS, freshman Kathleen Garvey explained in an interview with *The News-Letter* why she believes that space exploration should be further pursued.

"I think space travel is important because it is a way for humans to explore the cosmos and push our knowledge to limits not yet known," said Garvey. "Incredible research is conducted in space that [can solve] many problems that we have."

# A personalized vaccine may help treat ovarian cancer

By TERESA NG  
Staff Writer

Ovarian cancer is often called the "silent killer" because its symptoms are difficult to detect until the cancer has developed into later, deadlier stages. Since it is commonly detected only at an advanced stage, chemotherapy and surgery regularly fail to prevent ovarian cancer from recurring. The five-year survival rate for stage IV invasive epithelial ovarian cancer is a mere 17 percent.

However, preliminary clinical trials show that an experimental personalized vaccine is safe and could extend the lives of

advanced-stage ovarian cancer patients.

The treatment is a personalized immunotherapy targeted to address individual patients.

After both the tumor cells and the parts of a the patients' immune system known as dendritic cells are harvested, the dendritic cells are taught to identify and attack the tumor cells. They are reintroduced as a personalized vaccine into the patient's body, where the dendritic cells interact with the patient's T cells, the immune system's front line. The T cells then learn to identify and attack malignant cells as well.

Ten patients with ad-

vanced ovarian cancer received the personalized treatment along with cyclophosphamide and bevacizumab, other cancer medications. Eight survived beyond two years. Out of another 10 who received the same treatment, excluding the cyclophosphamide, 30 percent were alive after two years. In contrast to the survival rate of the cohort with the full treatment, only half of a control group of 56 patients who received only chemotherapy survived to the two-year mark.

The vaccine has been found to be remarkably safe in conjunction with the other medications — the worst side effects re-

ported were small spells of tiredness and flu-like symptoms.

The use of personalized vaccines is far from widespread. Otis Brawley, chief medical officer of the American Cancer Society, is hopeful, and he has noted that the study "justifies a larger clinical trial." However, he has also cautioned that survival analysis may be susceptible to biases and that there may be "better-proven" conventional therapies preferable to an "unknown" immunotherapy.

Either way, continued innovation in oncology continues to give patients of the "silent killer" hope.

# Eating dark chocolate has neurological benefits

By ELAINE CHIAO  
Science & Technology Editor

Researchers at Loma Linda University have recently announced good news for people with a sweet tooth. After many experimental trials, they discovered that the consumption of certain types of dark chocolate noticeably improves people's cognitive abilities.

Lee S. Berk is the principal investigator of a study that investigates the relationship between cacao consumption and neurological functions. Berk is a researcher in psychoneuroimmunology and food science from Loma Linda University, as well as the associate dean of research affairs

at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Allied Health Professions.

Cacao is a bean-like seed originating from West Africa, and is one of the major components of dark chocolate. Most importantly, it is a type of flavonoid, or compound, that has been proven to have positive effects on stress levels, inflammation, mood, memory and even immunity.

"This is the first time that we have looked at the impact of large amounts of cacao in doses as small as a regular-sized chocolate bar in humans over short or long periods of time and are encouraged by the findings," Berk said in a press release.

Berk's studies revealed that the rate of cacao con-

sumption is directly proportional to a person's positive moods and cognitive acuity levels. From a more biological standpoint, cacao enhances the brain's functions through regulation of immune responses and sensory perceptions in cells.

For example, Beck's team discovered that cacao regulates the activities of various signaling pathways in the human body, most of which are involved in immune responses. One of these is the T cell pathway, which is a type of signaling pathway involving T cell lymphocytes that hunt down or destroy germs and cancerous cells alike.

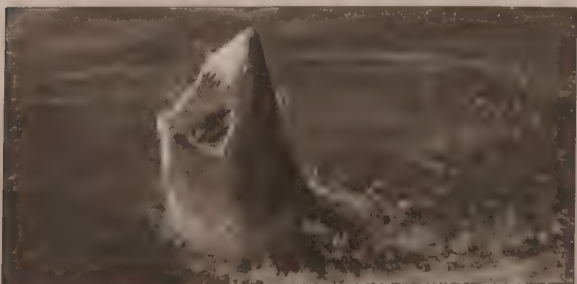
Dark chocolate is rela-

tively low in sugar content and contains an abundance of antioxidants.

For many years, people have known that sugar intake can be linked to increased happiness. However, Berk's research specifically focuses on dark chocolate's effects on the human body from the standpoint of cacao consumption levels.

Berk's team recently presented their research at the Experimental Biology 2018 annual meeting in San Diego, and it has received widespread attention.

In the future, the researchers hope to unravel the intricate mechanisms behind cacao-mediated brain responses. They also hope to pinpoint cacao's impact on immune cell activities.



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The likelihood of being fatally attacked by a shark is one in 3,700,000.

Antioxidants can reduce cardiovascular diseases

New diseases found to be linked to mono virus

By CINDY JIANG  
Staff Writer

In this day and age, antioxidants seem to have flooded popular media with their promises of youth and good health. According to a new study published in *Hypertension*, an American Heart Association journal, the use of oral antioxidants may produce considerable health benefits.

But what exactly are antioxidants, and how do they work their magic to keep the human body in prime condition?

Antioxidants are substances that play a role in preventing or at least delaying the effects of cell damage. They range from man-made to natural sources and may be found in food items such as fruits and vegetables.

Vitamin C, vitamin E, selenium and certain carotenoids like beta-carotene, lycopene, lutein and zeaxanthin are a few common examples of antioxidants.

The benefit of antioxidant molecules comes from their ability to counteract the effects of oxidative stress caused by exposure to free radicals. Free radicals are classified as highly unstable molecules resulting from everyday activities such as exercising, as well as when the body converts consumed food into energy. These molecules also have environmental sources, including cigarette smoke, air pollution and sunlight.

Free radicals cause oxidative stress by triggering various types of cell damage that influence cancer, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, cataracts and age-related macular degeneration.

While there definitely seems to be positive outcomes related to the intake of antioxidants, as with many other supplements, excessive dosages raise deleterious concerns. The study in *Hypertension* counteracts these concerns.

Matthew Rossman, a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Integrative Physiology at the University of Colorado Boulder and the lead author of the study, elaborated on the team's findings.

"This is the first clinical trial to assess the impact of a mitochondrial-specific antioxidant on vascular function in humans," Rossman said in a press release. "It suggests that therapies like this

may hold real promise for reducing the risk of age-related cardiovascular disease."

The research was carried out with a sample size of 20 healthy men and women from the ages of 60 to 79. Ten of the subjects took 20 milligrams of MitoQ, a supplement made by altering the antioxidant Coenzyme Q10 in order to make it attach to mitochondria. The other 10 subjects were offered a placebo.

At the end of six weeks, researchers analyzed the function of the endothelium, which is the lining of the blood vessels, by assessing vessel dilation under increased blood flow. Then, following a two week "wash out" period, the entire procedure was repeated with the treatments for the two groups switched.

The results showed that the addition of the antioxidant supplement into the subjects' diets reduced oxidative stress and improved artery dilation by 42 percent. This figure reverses the effects of about 15 to 20 years of aging on blood vessels and may be correlated to a 13 percent reduction in heart disease risk.

"Blood vessels grow stiff and have trouble dilating with age largely as a result of oxidative stress, the excess production of metabolic byproducts called free radicals which can damage the endothelium and impair its function," Rossman said.

While a young body can produce enough antioxidants to quench free radicals, as the body ages its antioxidant defenses eventually cannot keep up with the constant generation of free radicals.

Doug Seals, the director of the Integrative Physiology of Aging Laboratory at the University of Colorado Boulder and a co-author of the research, further stressed how the discovery would potentially direct future treatment targets.

"This study breathes new life into the discredited theory that supplementing the diet with antioxidants can improve health," Seals said. "It suggests that targeting a specific source — mitochondria — may be a better way to reduce oxidative stress and improve cardiovascular health with aging."

Regardless of the lack of previous scientific backing for the benefits of antioxidants, these novel results somewhat justify the renewed public interest in them.

By ANNA CHEN  
Staff Writer

Mononucleosis (mono), also known as the "kissing disease" due to its ability to spread through saliva, is a common viral infection on college campuses and worldwide.

Mononucleosis is caused by the Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), which is estimated to infect 90 percent of people in the U.S. by age 20 and 90 percent of the people in developing countries by the age of two. Ninety-eight percent of the world's population carries EBV, since once it infects, it remains in a person for the rest of their lives.

EBV causes mononucleosis 90 percent of the time it infects someone, leading to a variety of symptoms such as extreme fatigue that lasts for weeks, fever and sore throat. Because mono has never been life-threatening, research for vaccines and treatment against EBV has been limited.

However, scientists have recently discovered that EBV can also be linked to several other more serious diseases such as systemic lupus erythematosus, multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile idiopath-

ic arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, celiac disease and type 1 diabetes. In total, these diseases affect approximately eight million people in the U.S.

A study published in the journal *Nature Genetics* and led by scientists John Harley, Leah Kottyan and Matthew Weirauch from the Center for Autoimmune Genomics and Etiology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital details this finding.

It turns out that EBV enters the human body and infects B cells. B cells are immune cells that respond to infection by producing antibodies, which target the pathogen for degradation. But in the case of EBV, upon infection, the virus attacks the B cells and takes over the cell's control system. The virus tricks the cells into producing viral transcription factors instead of the cell's own proteins. Transcription factors are small proteins that bind to DNA and turn genes on and off.

These viral transcription factors cause different diseases depending on where in the cell's DNA it binds to. For example, when it binds close to a location known to be a significant risk factor for lupus, the risk for lupus

was found to increase.

The implications of this study are enormous. Since EBV is found to cause such serious diseases, vaccines and medications are under development in hopes to remedy not only mononucleosis, but also many other related diseases.

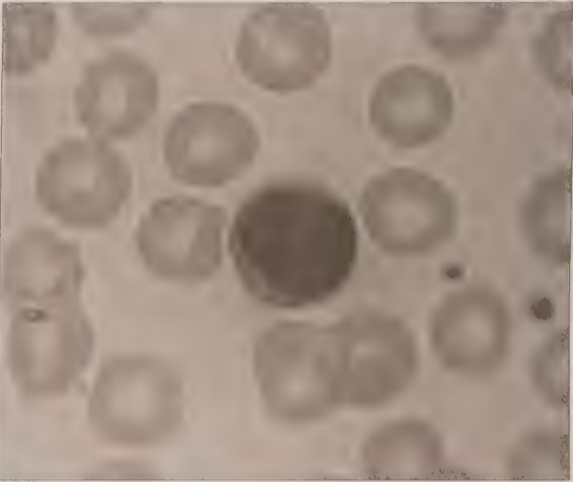
The discoveries about EBV also provide new perspectives on how to possibly treat lupus, multiple sclerosis and other aforementioned serious diseases.

The impact of the virus on the different diseases is rather varied. In lupus and multiple sclerosis, the virus accounts for a rela-

tively large percentage of those cases. For the other diseases, the proportion is not quite clear.

The research team at Cincinnati Children's hospital believes that their findings go far beyond EBV, possibly into the scope of diseases such as breast cancer.

The research team has explained that they are currently working on making their data, results and the new algorithms they had created for this project publicly available, so other teams of scientists can use their findings as a foundation for more in-depth, disease-specific experimentation.



PUBLIC DOMAIN  
Mono virus attacks B cells, which produces proteins to turn genes on and off.

## Space@Hopkins presents interdisciplinary research

SPACE, FROM B7  
computer engineering.

Etienne-Cummings is developing systems that will work like the tactile sensory system in the human body. He is currently focusing on the recognition of an object's sharpness, and his findings may be applied to prosthetics or bulky space suits. Michael Harrower is currently an archaeologist in the Near Eastern Studies department. He is analyzing spectral signatures of various materials which can then be found by satellite, potentially identifying archaeological sites.

Elizabeth Turtle works in the Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) and spoke about her potential space mission, Dragonfly. The probe will go to Titan, one of Saturn's moons, to extensively analyze its atmosphere. As the only atmosphere in the solar system containing complex organic molecules like Earth, Turtle hopes Titan will give insights into how life began.

Other speakers included Associate Professor of Otolaryngology Mark Shelhamer; APL researcher Nour Raouafi; Catherine Davis, a researcher in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; Todd Smith, a scientist at the APL; astrophysicist John Mather; and Nadia Zakamska, an associate professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

Many speakers were previous recipients of Space@Hopkins seed grants, including Stanley, Etienne-Cummings, Shelhamer and Harrower from 2017 and Davis and Smith from 2016.

A condition of the Space@Hopkins seed grant is that the research must include the help of at least one undergraduate student, as part of an ini-

tiative by Space@Hopkins to bring students into the fold of space-related science.

Both students and faculty come to Space@Hopkins requesting certain types of people or research, and Space@Hopkins ensures they both find what they're looking for.

"We're playing a match-maker role between faculty members and between the faculty and the students," Bennett said. So far the seed grants have been very successful. Three of the first-year seed grants have been converted into large external grants. The next deadline to apply for a Space@Hopkins seed grant is on May 18, 2018.

The second annual Space@Hopkins Symposium ended with a panel of commercial space em-

ployees, including Scott Lee from Northrup Grumman, Debra Facktor from Ball Aerospace, Christopher Long from Orbital ATK and Bob Vogt from Radiant Solutions.

The discussion largely focused on how current students could find careers in the industry.

All four panelists spoke about how many job openings were in the market, and how many companies are looking for young people to fill senior titles or come in as juniors to be prepared for higher positions. Facktor also emphasized getting involved early in anyway possible, through networking and summer jobs.

Largely, the consensus was that it is a ripe time to enter the commercial space business. Bennett echoed this sentiment.

"We live in an interdisciplinary world. A lot of problems require interdisciplinary solutions, so it's essential for us to get to know our colleagues," Bennett said.

## 3-D mini-brains can reveal genetics of mental illnesses

BRAIN, FROM B7  
"Mini-brains can help us model brain development,"

Young-Pearse said, according to *ScienceDaily*. "Compared to traditional methods that have allowed us to investigate human cells in culture in 2-D, these cultures let us investigate the 3-D structure and function of the cells as they are developing, giving us more information than we would get with a traditional cell culture."

DISC1 is one of few genes associated with schizophrenia and other mental illnesses, including severe depression and bipolar disorder. This was first discovered in a large Scottish family, whose DISC1 gene was

disrupted by gene translocation and appeared to be linked to an increased risk for mental disorders.

The researchers demonstrated in their results that mini-brains with DISC1-mutation were morphologically different from normal mini-brains.

DISC1-mutated brains were shown to have more disorganized structures, specifically an increased number of small and disorganized rosettes in place of large rosettes and ventricle-like structures.

They also discovered that the effects of increased Wnt signaling in mini-brains had similar morphological effects that

DISC1-mutations have on normal mini-brains. The Wnt signaling pathway plays a critical role in embryonic development by regulating aspects such as cell fate determination, cell migration and neural patterning.

This study's results support the researchers' hypothesis that mutation in DISC1 results in elevated Wnt signaling in neural progenitor cells. This elevated Wnt signaling can lead to morphological and neurodevelopmental differences that may alter cell fate and cell migration.

"By producing cerebral organoids from iPSCs we are able to carefully con-

trol these experiments. We know that any differences we are seeing are because of the DISC1-mutation that we introduced," Young-Pearse said.

Furthermore, she emphasizes that their research provides evidence that strengthens the connection between DISC1-mutations and risks of mental disorders.

"By looking at how DISC1-mutations disrupt the morphology and gene expression of cerebral organoids, we are strengthening the link between DISC1-mutation and major mental illness, and providing new avenues for investigation of this relationship," she said.



PUBLIC DOMAIN  
Antioxidants, commonly found in fruits and vegetables, can improve health.

## SPORTS

# Baseball loses to Hood M. and W. Tennis end Conference play undefeated in regular season finale

BASEBALL, FROM B12

last opportunities to score to give the Jays their second comeback victory of the weekend.

In game two, back-and-forth runs defined the opening innings of the second game. With the score tied at 2-2, the Jays came out in the bottom of the third wanting to establish a lead.

DeGiacomo stepped up to the plate and led off the inning with a single, and senior catcher Alex Darwiche hit a home run to center to send both him and DeGiacomo home. The score now read 4-2. Hopkins didn't stop there, as they notched two more runs in the fourth with a sacrifice fly from junior outfielder Tim Kutcher and a home run from DeGiacomo.

Dickinson responded with a run of their own, but Bowman responded with his third home run of the day, launching the ball over the fence to advance the score to 7-3.

Dickinson put one more run on the board, but Hopkins proved to be too dominant, as two more runs made the final score of the second game 9-4, in favor of the Jays. Junior reliever John Donohue led Hopkins on the mound with a four-inning outing, the longest of his career. During the outing he only gave up six hits, two runs and one walk to take home the win.

After an off-day on Sunday to recover after playing three consecutive games, Hopkins took to Babb Field one last time before hosting the first round of the Conference tournament on Thursday night. The Jays faced off against non-Conference opponent, the Hood College Blazers, in an effort to improve their chances at receiving an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Unfortunately, the Blue Jays failed to pull out the non-Conference victory after nine innings of regular play and three extra innings Monday afternoon.

"The game didn't go as well as we hoped. Sean [McCracken] pitched a great game, and we just didn't give him the run support that he needed. We missed too many opportunities early in the game, and that came back to bite us when they finally broke through in the 12th," sophomore infielder Nathan Davis said.

Hopkins started the day with a two-run first inning, as DeGiacomo doubled and Darwiche homered to right field. The score remained 2-0, in favor of Hopkins, for the majority of the game, with McCracken spearheading the Blue Jays' pitching efforts.

In the eighth, however, the Blazers struck back with a two-run home run of their own. The score was tied 2-2 to send the game into extra innings.

After a couple pitching substitutions, Donohue found the mound, a surprising sight considering his long outing just two days prior. After a ball was sent deep into right-center and bounced over the wall, Hood's runner on second jogged home. The Blazers gained their first lead of the day, the score being 4-3 after the top of the 11th inning.

The Blue Jays did not give up their fight, as they

extended the game to another inning after a sacrifice fly by Bowman that tied up the game at 4-4. The Blazers found their groove in the top of the 12th, as they notched in four runs.

Now having this pressure to score, Hopkins used their urgency to show up with a promising start to the bottom of the inning. Davis came in to pinch hit for the Jays and hit a two-run home run to put the score at 7-5, still in favor of the Blazers.

"I was really just focused on getting a good pitch to elevate and drive through the middle of the field. As a pinch hitter in a situation like that, when we're down four in the last inning, my job is to get on base and drive in runners, and I was really just looking for a pitch to do that," Davis said.

With no outs and two more runs to tie up the game, the Blue Jays kept swinging. However, they couldn't close the gap after the three outs, and the win went to Hood College after 12 innings of play.

Despite the loss, the Jays must refocus on the larger goal of winning the Conference Tournament and advancing to the NCAA Tournament.

"I'm excited, and I'm sure the rest of the team is too. We've got a great team, and we're all ready to get back on the field for Thursday's game," Davis said.

Catch the Jays on Babb Field Thursday night at 3 p.m., as they host the Muhlenberg College Mules in the first round of the Centennial Conference Tournament.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM

The women's team has now won 120 straight Conference matchups.

By SIMONE BLISS  
For The News-Letter

This past week was an exciting one for Hopkins tennis, as both teams rallied to take home the coveted regular season Centennial Conference title.

The women's team closed out their regular season with a home match on May 27 against the Swarthmore College Garnet. The Jays entered the matchup undefeated in Conference play looking to secure the regular season Centennial Conference Championship.

The Blue Jays won all six singles matchups against the Garnet and brought home two out of three doubles matchups.

Junior Kimberly Zou defeated Swarthmore's senior Anna Scheibmeir 6-0 and 6-2, the most lopsided score of the day. Most of the other Blue Jays won their matches handily as well, winning all but one matchup in just two sets.

The Blue Jays won the majority of the doubles matchups as well, as freshman Anjali Kashyap and sophomore Sophia Strickland won their matchup

at first against Garnet sophomore Emma Kassan and Scheibmeir. Freshman Dhanya Asokumar and Zou beat Swarthmore junior Julia Gokhberg and sophomore Shirline Wee. Junior Katie Gauch and freshman Margo Gerke fought hard but fell 7-9.

Kashyap commented on the struggle the team went through to get to where they are now.

"Four of our starters graduated last year and we started the season with a very young team. That being said, we worked extremely hard during preseason, indoor and spring season in order to prepare for harder teams and win the Conference. Beating [Christopher Newport University] 8-1 was a huge confidence boost that carried us into beating Swarthmore 8-1," she said.

The men's team also had an impressive end to their regular season, going undefeated in Conference play as well after battling Swarthmore in a gritty victory on Saturday. They enter the post-season 9-0 in the Centennial Conference and 16-3 overall.

At home on Saturday,

the Jays pulled off an upset against the Garnet. Swarthmore came in ranked No. 16, the Jays No. 23.

Singles competition was intense, with close games all around, but Hopkins was able to make it through. Junior Scott Thygesen fought a particularly tough battle against Garnet freshman Thibault Vernier at second but triumphed 6-4, 4-6, 6-4. Sophomore Austin Gu won his match at fifth by a score of 6-3, 6-3. Freshman Vishnu Joshi snatched a 6-0, 7-5 victory at first.

Doubles competition was an even closer matchup for the Blue Jays. Only the pair of senior David Perez and Thygesen was able to come out of their match with a win, beating Swarthmore seniors Mark Fallati and Josh Powell 8-5 at first.

Joshi reflected on the team's season goals.

"From a team perspective, heading into this season there were a lot of questions being asked of us since we are a very young team, fresh off of graduating some of the best tennis players in Hopkins history a season ago," he said. "Our goals remained the same, however: remain the dominant figure in the Centennial Conference and make a run in the NCAA tournament."

He elaborated on what the team plans to keep in mind going into the future.

"The season is long and sometimes it is easy to lose sight of the end goals, but as we head into the post season next week we have been stepping up our intensity and getting prepared for whatever any team can throw at us," Joshi said.

The Jays closed the regular season the next day at the University of Mary Washington. This matchup proved to be difficult, as the Jays went 3-3 in doubles play and 2-1 in singles, finishing their regular season with a non-Conference victory.

Joshi, Gu and senior Justin Kang won their singles matches, with especially strong play demonstrated in a 6-1, 6-1 match from Kang.

Standout players Joshi and sophomore Vik Vasan would continue their week of strong play in an 8-3 doubles victory at third. Sophomore Joe Cartledge and Gu also finished with an 8-3 win of their own at first.

Joshi commented on the team's preparation moving forward.

"During practice we have tried to put our friendships with one another aside and play competitively in order to prepare for the competition that lies ahead. Our captains Justin [Kang] and David [Perez] have tried to give us a little extra motivation as we head into our last few matches and have taught the underclassmen how to play not just for ourselves but to properly represent the school."

The men return to action on Saturday, May 5 at 1 p.m. in the semifinals against the winner of the Washington College and Franklin & Marshall College matchup.

The women will return on May 5 as well to host the Conference tournament at the Hopkins tennis courts. They will also play the winner of Washington College versus Franklin & Marshall.

## LeBron James' path to the Lakers is complicated but possible



Gregory Melick  
Sportpinion

As a Los Angeles sports fan, I have high expectations for the teams I support. Because I am a fan of the Lakers, Angels and Chargers, I have been thoroughly disappointed by my favorite teams over the last couple of years. With that being said, there is hope for all three of my favorite teams going forward.

The Chargers started their season with four straight losses but ended the season as one of the hottest teams in the entire NFL, winning nine of their last 12 games to narrowly miss the playoffs.

The Angels had their best start in franchise history through 16 games with a 13-3 record, and though they have slowed down their torrid pace, they have already set themselves up well for a Wild Card spot at the very least. The team is surrounded by talent from the best baseball player in the world to the potential modern-day Babe Ruth.

While both of these teams show potential, the team I am most excited about is the Lakers. Though the record does not reflect it, they have one of the most loaded rosters in the NBA when it comes to youth and talent. Brandon Ingram and Julius Randle vastly improved their production, both showing the potential to become regular NBA All-Stars if they continue to grow. Meanwhile, amid all the individual rookie showings, the Lakers probably had the best rookie class as a whole.

Kyle Kuzma will score in the NBA. Do not be surprised if he leads the NBA in scoring at least once by the time his career is over. Lonzo Ball is a playmaker, even when he struggles shooting, and makes the players around him better, reflected in his 7.2 assists and 1.7 steals per game this past year. In this triple-double era we are currently experiencing in the NBA, Lonzo Ball will be the next player to flirt with a triple-double every night.

To round out their stellar rookie class is Josh Hart, who is just a tough player and will be a solid starter in the NBA for years because he rebounds and plays shutdown defense. His scoring also improved as the year went on, exemplified by his last four games of the year, in which he averaged 23.8 points per game, includ-

ing a 30-point game in his final game of the year.

While these young stars provide a lot of future potential, Lakers fans are not ones for waiting. The new front office of President Magic Johnson and General Manager Rob Pelinka has made it clear they are looking to win now, and they plan on doing that by signing two max contract players this coming offseason, and it has all been explicitly stated that the two players they will be going after are Paul George of the Oklahoma City Thunder and LeBron James of the Cleveland Cavaliers.

I may have a slightly biased position, but I think Paul George has all but signed his contract with the Lakers, in lieu of the Thunder's first-round playoff loss to the Utah Jazz. The Thunder superteam of Russell Westbrook, Carmelo Anthony and George was supposed to compete with the Golden State Warriors and the Houston Rockets but could not even get by the rookie-led Jazz.

Additionally, Carmelo has said he will not take a backseat going forward, despite his atrocious efficiency in recent years. There is no reason for George to

stay, as he has voiced in the past that he would love to play in his hometown of Los Angeles for the team he cheered for growing up, the Lakers. This past season in Oklahoma City did not even come close to persuading him to give up that dream, and therefore he will be in the purple and gold next year.

The tough part will be wooing LeBron James, the greatest player of our generation, who has gone to seven consecutive NBA Finals and won four MVP

awards.

**Lebron can opt out of his contract after this season, and many believe he will test free agency once again.**

LeBron can opt out of his contract after this season, and many believe he will test free agency once again. The top possible landing

spots for LeBron are, according to multiple sources, including ESPN, the Lakers, the Cavaliers, the Houston Rockets and the Philadelphia 76ers.

There is a very clear path (at least in my mind) where LeBron ends up on the Lakers, but it will take a very specific combination of playoff outcomes.

Additionally, if the Cavaliers do not make the NBA Finals, he will not stay with Cleveland. This team he is currently on is simply just not good, and he is carry-

ing them to whatever success they get. If he does not even make it to the Finals, it is not worth the amount of effort he has to put in.

The final step will be the Rockets winning the NBA championship. This is the most unrealistic expectation in my opinion, as I do not see a way where the Rockets beat the Warriors to even make it to the NBA Finals. If they do find a way to make it and win, LeBron would not go to the Rockets, because it would again be seen as a cop out similar to when Durant went to the Warriors. The Rockets are already a super team, and LeBron would not be able to add at all to his legacy by joining a pre-existing super team.

With all of those options eliminated, I see him joining a Lakers team with loads of young talent and probably Paul George on top of that. With Paul George on the team, the Lakers could remind LeBron of the Indiana Pacers teams he faced in the Eastern Conference Finals when he was a member of the Miami Heat. That type of team with LeBron James could contest with the other super teams in the League and give him the best chance at getting more NBA championships.

I know this may seem far-fetched, but hey, a fan has to dream, and when you are from the City of Angels, the name of the game is go big or go home.

SPORTS

# M. and W. Track teams compete at two invites

By EMILIE HOFFER  
Sports Editor

This past weekend, both the men's and women's track and field teams competed in the 124th annual Penn Relays Carnival hosted by the University of Pennsylvania at Franklin Field. The Penn Relays is both the oldest and largest relay meet in the world, attracting a crowd of about 100,000 spectators each year.

This year, the Blue Jays had a total of 32 athletes compete in the world-renowned meet, which took place from April 26-28 in Philadelphia, Pa.

Sophomore Ted Oh described the energy at Franklin Field over the weekend.

"It is absolutely insane. The entire stadium is completely packed. There are Olympians on the track right before us, as well as some of the best D-I collegiate teams. It is by far the most energetic, most exciting and loudest atmosphere we race in," Oh said.

Oh further explained how the team dealt with the nerves that inevitably come with the chaos of such a large meet.

"We try the best we can to just treat this like we would any other meet. It is definitely nerve-wracking to have so many people watching you race, and the crowds and pre-race procedures can throw you off. But sticking to the routine as much as we can helps you go into the race feeling calm and ready," said Oh.

Starting the weekend off right, the women's distance crew had one of the most impressive nights in program history during day one of the competition.

Next, in the 3000-meter steeplechase, senior Caroline Smith and junior Tasha Freed both posted top-20 nationally ranked times, crossing the line in 10:52 and 10:56, respectively.

To finish out the night for the distance crew, four Blue Jays competed in the 5K, all posting top-30 times in the nation this season. Junior Felicia Körner led the way for the Jays, finishing with a time of 16:54, followed closely by classmate Ellie Clawson, who finished in 16:58, setting a new personal-best time in the event.

Körner was named the Centennial Conference Track Athlete of the Week for her impressive performance in the 5K.

Two more Blue Jays finished with personal-best performances, as sophomores Rebecca Grusby and Lauren Jacob crossed the line in 17:00 and 17:16, respectively. The Blue Jays now hold the top four fastest 5K times in the Centennial Conference so far this season.

Also posting a top Cen-

tennial Conference time that day was the women's 4x400-meter relay team made up of freshmen Marisa Sailus, Hailey Sheppell and Alexandra Damron, and senior Lauren Roberts.

The men put a relay together for the 4x800-meter, led off by junior Giacomo Taylor, who split 1:58, before passing it off to sophomore Jack Armand, who clocked the quickest split of the day with a 1:56. Next, sophomore Vipul Bhat took the baton, splitting 1:57. Oh anchored the relay for the Blue Jays, splitting a 1:58 to bring the Blue Jays to an overall time of 7:51 that day.

While a number of Jays competed at Penn, the rest of the men's and women's track and field teams were in Shipensburg, Pa. for the Paul Kaiser Classic. At this meet it was the field events that highlighted the day for Hopkins, as a number of school records were shattered over the day-long competition.

To start, junior Maya Hammonds posted a new career best and school record in the long jump, leaping to a mark of 5.82 meters, which currently ranks third in the nation and first in the Centennial.

Thanks to Hammonds' performance, the Hopkins women swept the Centennial Conference Awards for the week, as she was honored as the Field Athlete of the Week.

However, Hammonds was not the only new school record of the day, as junior Sophia Diodati threw the hammer a new program-record distance of 33.15 meters.

On the men's side, sophomore Matthew Su stole the show for the Blue Jays, setting a personal best in the long jump with a mark of 7.43 meters, good enough for a second place overall finish. His jump is the fourth best mark in the nation so far this season. Su was honored as the Centennial Field Athlete of the Week this Monday for his performance over the weekend.

This week, the Blue Jays will be preparing for the Centennial Conference Championships, as the men attempt to defend their fifth straight outdoor title and the women their ninth straight title.

"Our goal going into conferences is always to come away with the team championship on both the men's and the women's sides," Oh said. "For a lot of people, Conferences is the culmination of their season, and it is a great opportunity to take advantage of the competition and try to set personal bests to qualify for nationals."

The Conference championships will be hosted this weekend from Friday, May 4 to Sunday, May 6 by Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pa.

By DANIEL LANDY  
Sports Editor

The women's lacrosse team secured a valuable Conference victory this past Saturday against the Rutgers University Scarlet Knights. In their final regular season game, the Blue Jays picked up a 16-11 win on the road and clinched the final spot in the Big Ten Tournament. The Jays' victory was powered by a dazzling offensive performance, led by sophomore midfielder Mackenzie Heldberg, who finished the game with a team high of six goals.

Heldberg recently spoke with *The News-Letter* to discuss her outstanding play, as well as the team's outlook heading into the postseason.

*The News-Letter*: You were dominant throughout the game, scoring two goals in the first half and then adding another four in the second. What elements of your game fueled your exceptional individual performance?

**Mackenzie Heldberg**: What fueled me throughout the day was the insanely high energy that everyone on our team was putting toward this game. This was a head-to-head match for the last spot in the Big Ten Tournament, and I think everyone on our team was excited and motivated to get this win. Not to mention the girls who were setting me up — Miranda Ibello,

who had eight assists, and Maggie Schneidereith with four — as well as the rest of the girls. We just played extremely unselfishly, and I owe my performance to my team. I couldn't have done it without every single one of them.

**N-L**: It is always difficult to pick up victories against Conference opponents on the road, which made Saturday's win especially impressive. What has the team been able to take away from this crucial victory?

**M H**: We've had so many close games, something around five one-goal losses to great opponents — so

I think what we've taken away from not only this win, but every single game we've played thus far, is that we have the ability and talent to play with just about anyone. We've faced many challenges throughout this season, and we've responded so well each time, so this win on the road at Rutgers was a great end to the regular season for us.

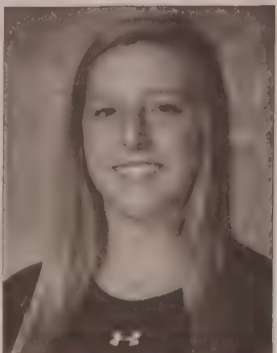
**N-L**: You have taken on an integral role during your sophomore year and finished the regular season

with 34 goals. How did you handle the transition from freshman year, and what has been the key to your breakout season?

**MH**: The transition from freshman year was all about my confidence and mental toughness. I learned to trust myself and lean on my teammates and know that they always have my back. I allowed myself to make mistakes and learn from them instead of

dwelling on them — that's something our coaches burn into our brains. The girls challenge me to be the best I can be, and I learn from them every day. This past summer, I worked on the little things, putting in the extra time and energy to make myself and ultimately my team better. There's still a lot to learn and clean up on my end, but I couldn't have done it without the support and encouragement from my teammates and coaches, which was the key to my success thus far.

**N-L**: What is the team focusing on as it enters a huge matchup in the Big Ten Tournament against the Univer-



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM  
Midfielder Mackenzie Heldberg.

sity of Maryland Terrapins?

**MH**: Our team is so excited to get another chance to play an incredible Maryland team, and we're focusing on playing a complete game and staying composed, as well as celebrating and having great energy. In most of our close games, we have lead by a few goals and then let the other team go on a run, so I think playing our game from the first whistle until the 60 minutes are up will help us get this win.

Don't miss Heldberg and Hopkins in their Big Ten Tournament semifinal matchup against Maryland this Friday at the University of Michigan. The winner will advance to Sunday's final and take on either the Northwestern University Wildcats or the Pennsylvania State University Nittany Lions.

VITAL  
STATISTICS

Name: Mackenzie Heldberg  
Year: Sophomore  
Sport: Lacrosse  
Major: Undecided  
Hometown: Kings Park, N.Y.  
High School: Smithtown High-West

## Biggest takeaways from the surprise-filled NFL Draft



Brandon Wolfe  
Sportspion

In front of legions of fans from across the land, rising football stars found out where their careers would be heading during the 2018 National Football League (NFL) Draft.

As has been a tradition almost every year since his appointment in 2006, the draft commenced with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell being bombarded with a fury of boos as he came across the stage, followed by mixed reactions from many fans as the Cleveland Browns announced who would be their first overall selection: 2017 Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Baker Mayfield.

The Browns made plenty of offseason moves, adding seven-year veteran quarterback Tyrod Taylor and three-time Pro Bowl wide receiver Jarvis Landry to go along with their nine draft picks. Head coach Hue Jackson, who has been 1-31 in his two seasons in The Land, has confirmed to reporters that Tyrod Taylor will be the top quarterback on the depth chart, and Mayfield will be penciled in as the number three quarterback behind Taylor and veteran Drew Stanton.

Many fans raised their eyebrows over he decision to pick Mayfield, as the former Oklahoma Sooners has drawn many comparisons to that of Johnny Manziel, another Heisman Trophy-

winning quarterback who has had his share of off-the-field issues. Manziel was taken 22nd overall in the 2014 Draft and spent only two years with the Browns before being cut, amidst many controversies in which authorities had him under investigation.

Perhaps giving him time to marinate and learn under veteran leadership will bode well for both Mayfield and the Browns, who have struggled with rookie quarterbacks. Many NFL analysts are fairly impressed on the Browns' draft class and expect them to begin to make positive strides, but they are still a long way away from being legitimate contenders in the American Football Conference (AFC).

Besides Mayfield, the first round saw four other quarterbacks selected, with University of Southern California's Sam Darnold going third to the Jets; University of Wyoming's Josh Allen going seventh to the Bills; University of California, Los Angeles's Josh Rosen going 10th to the Cardinals, and 2016 Heisman Trophy winner from the University of Louisville Lamar Jackson rounding out the first round at 32nd to the Baltimore Ravens.

Darnold, Allen and Rosen, unlike Mayfield, will likely be expected to compete for the starting job right away, while Jackson will likely be placed behind Joe Flacco. One of the biggest winners of the draft was the New York Giants, who took Penn State standout run-

ning back Saquon Barkley with the second overall pick. He should be expected to bring an immediate increase in productivity in the running game, along with the acquisition of guard Will Hernandez from the University of Texas at El Paso.

The Arizona Cardinals also set themselves up nicely for the future when they drafted Rosen as well Texas A&M University wideout Christian Kirk, who will get to benefit from learning from, and complementing, 11-time Pro Bowler Larry Fitzgerald.

The Denver Broncos have received plenty of praise as well and deservedly so. They were able to pick up North Carolina State University's Bradley Chubb fifth overall, when many had expected him to go earlier, perhaps even first. Chubb, coupled with Von Miller,

will create plenty of problems for offensive tackles. The Broncos also picked up Southern Methodist University's Courtland Sutton at the wide receiver spot to add to the already dangerous receiving corps of Demaryius Thomas and Emmanuel Sanders, which will give recently-signed quarterback Case Keenum plenty of options to work with.

Perhaps the most feel-good story of the draft came on day three at pick No. 141, when University of Central Florida linebacker Shaquem Griffin learned that he would be a Seattle Seahawk. The former Knight was born with amniotic band syndrome, which caused the

fingers on his left hand to not fully develop and forced him to undergo an amputation of his hand at age four.

A second team All-American last season, Griffin shocked many with his stellar performance in the NFL Combine, running a 4.38 40-yard dash and completing 20 reps on the 225-pound bench press wearing a prosthetic hand. Despite his handicap, his college resume and performance in the Combine was enough to warrant a draft pick by the Seahawks, where Griffin will get the chance to reunite with his twin brother, fellow cornerback and UCF alum, Shaquill Griffin.

Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker Ryan Shazier was also a feel-good story of the draft. After suffering an absolutely terrifying spinal injury that left the Pro Bowl linebacker confined to a wheel chair, Shazier showed off the tremendous progress he has made on the road to recovery, walking out on stage with his fiancée to announce the Steelers' first round selection.

Despite already being ruled out for the 2018 season, Shazier has stated that he plans to return to the field, and while his appearance warranted a standing ovation from the fans in attendance, some felt that his appearance was equally as worrying as it was inspiring.

Whether you were inspired or petrified at Shazier's appearance, it's exciting to see him making progress on his long road to recovery.

Every draft will have its share of stars, hidden gems and busts, and the 2018 iteration will be no different. As summer progresses and training camp begins, it will be exciting to watch and see what these rookies have to bring to the table this season.



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Sophomore Matthew Su was named Centennial Field Athlete of the Week.

# SPORTS

Did You Know?

One of our sports section contributors Haley Crosson was named Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week. The junior goalie for the women's lacrosse team has now posted seven double-digit save performances this season.

CALENDAR

Thursday:  
Baseball vs. Muhlenberg: 3 p.m.  
M. Lacrosse @ Ohio State: 7:30 p.m.

Friday:  
T&F @ Centennial Championships  
W. Lacrosse @ Big Ten: 5 p.m.

## M. Lacrosse loses in triple overtime thriller

By **HALEY CROSSON**  
For The News-Letter

A lot was on the line Saturday afternoon for the Blue Jays when they fell to Maryland in triple overtime, 8-7, in front of an overflow crowd of 10,388 at Homewood Field. This game, nicknamed "The Rivalry," has been played 116 times since 1895, with the winner receiving the famous wooden crab.

The Blue Jays rallied back from a 3-2 deficit at halftime and jumped to a 7-5 lead early in the fourth quarter, but the now No. 2 Maryland Terrapins scored twice in the final 3:30 of regulation to force overtime.

They eventually went on to edge the Blue Jays in the third overtime. Hopkins now slips to 9-4 overall and 3-2 in the Big Ten.

"They made one more play than us, and that is the difference in that game," head coach Dave Pietramala said.

Freshman midfielder Connor DeSimone started the scoring off for the Blue Jays in the third quarter, scoring on a right-handed strike, in an effort to redeem his late second-quarter goal that was waived off due to a crease violation.

Junior midfielder Alex Concannon and senior midfielder Joel Tinney both added a pair of goals for the Blue Jays. Concannon shook his defender and ran past him to score a low shot on Maryland goalie Dan Morris.

Although Concannon beat him twice that day, Morris seemed to be the difference in the game on Saturday afternoon. Morris finished the game with thirteen saves and most importantly stopped a shot by Tinney that would have extended the Blue Jay lead to 8-5.

"We are disappointed, but our goals are still right in front of us," Coach Pietramala said about the loss on Saturday afternoon.

Senior attacker Shack Stanwick, despite being out last week due to an undisclosed injury, added one goal and one assist.

Junior attacker Kyle Marr also added one goal and one assist for the Blue Jays. His two points push him over the 100-point

mark for his career.

On the defensive end, Hopkins held the Terrapins, who average over 10 goals per game, to only eight goals in the equivalent of five quarters. This was due to a great team defense by starting defenders junior Rob Kuhn, junior Patrick Foley, sophomore Owen Colwell and sophomore Jack Rapine.

Senior goalie Brock Turnbaugh also showed a solid effort in cage for the Blue Jays. He finished the game with eight saves. Turnbaugh reflected on his performance on Senior Day.

"Credit the defense for allowing me to see the shots that I want to see... and as for the kick saves, I was in the right place at the right time. It is better to be lucky than good," Turnbaugh said.

Senior face-off specialist Hunter Moreland showed a solid effort as well. He finished the game 11-21, winning 52 percent of face-offs in the game.

Hopkins has now lost four consecutive games to Maryland, after beating the Terrapins for three consecutive years between 2013 to 2015.

This is the first time that Maryland has won four straight games against Hopkins since a stretch from 1961 to 1964. The Blue Jays still lead the all-time series by a convincing margin, 71-44-1.

Despite the disappointing loss, Hopkins did receive some positive news this week, as four players were named to All-Big Ten teams.

Tinney was named to the first team, while Foley, Stanwick and sophomore attacker Cole Williams were named to the second team. Additionally, senior midfielder Brinton Valis received the Sportsmanship Award.

After Saturday's loss, Hopkins earned the number two seed in the Big Ten Tournament. The Jays face the Ohio State University Buckeyes in the Big Ten Tournament tonight at the University of Michigan at 7:30 p.m.

If they win, Hopkins will face the winner of the Maryland versus Rutgers University game in the Big Ten Championship on Saturday, May 5 at noon.

## M. and W. Tennis win regular season title



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Both men's and women's tennis defeated the Swarthmore College Garnets this past weekend to secure the first seed for the upcoming Centennial Conference Tournament and take home the regular season title. With both teams going undefeated and finishing first in Conference, they will host this year's Centennial Conference Tournament. If they take home their respective Championships, they will earn a bid into the NCAA Tournament, where both teams have historically made deep runs in previous years. **PAGE B10**

### LeBron's path to the Los Angeles Lakers

In the midst of the NBA Playoffs, there have been rumors of LeBron James leaving the Cleveland Cavaliers to join other rising forces in the League, including the rookie-filled Los Angeles Lakers. **PAGE B10**

### Athlete of the Week: Mackenzie Heldberg

Sophomore midfielder Mackenzie Heldberg has had a breakout second-year season, scoring six goals in the women's lacrosse team's Big Ten victory against Rutgers University, a team high. **PAGE B11**

### T&F competes at Penn Relays

Both the men and women of the Hopkins track and field team traveled to the University of Pennsylvania to compete in the 124th annual Penn Relays, the oldest and largest relay meet in the world. **PAGE B11**

## Baseball secures No. 2 seed for Conference Tournament

By **ESTHER HONG**  
Sports Editor

The Hopkins baseball team faced yet another jam-packed weekend, as the Jays secured the number two seed in the Centennial Conference Tournament.

The Blue Jays closed out Conference play with their second victory against the Washington College Shoremen on Friday afternoon and a doubleheader sweep against the Dickinson College Red Devils on Saturday.

On Friday, Hopkins was first to get on the scoreboard after senior third baseman Mike Smith worked a walk, senior outfielder Zach Jaffe singled and freshman designated hitter Austin Sacks singled to send Smith home.

However, the Jays failed to sustain their early lead, as the Shoremen quickly fired back.

After back-to-back singles and an error by the Hopkins infield, Washington College was in scoring position. A sacrifice bunt and a groundout sent two Shoremen runners home, giving Washington College a 2-1 lead.

The Shoremen attempted to continue their rally into the fourth, but senior pitcher Nick Burns jammed a hitter to induce an easy double play.

Another groundout ended the inning, leaving

a Shoremen runner stranded on third.

However, another Hopkins error increased Washington College's advantage to 3-1. This did not discourage the Jays, as they bounced back with a home run by senior first baseman Frank Clara in the eighth. Both Smith and Jaffe singled, and an error by the Shoremen allowed both to advance to second and third. Afraid of Sacks' bat, the Shoremen intentionally walked him to load the bases.

The Shoremen lost their lead after this decision, as sophomore shortstop Dillon Bowman hit into a fielder's choice to score one, and senior centerfielder Chris DeGiacomo singled to right-center to send two runners home, allowing the Jays to regain the lead.

Junior pitcher Harrison Folk, who came out of the bullpen in the seventh, continued to keep the Shoremen scoreless. Despite another Hopkins error and a single in the bottom of the eighth, Folk hit his spots to leave the Shoremen stranded.

The Blue Jays carried over their eighth-inning

momentum into the last inning of the day.

The bases were loaded, and Sacks hit a crucial single down the right-field line to bring in two more runs and give Hopkins seven total runs on the day.

"It was great to see how our guys responded to our backs being up against the wall. That breakthrough inning in the eighth was huge, and to shut it down the rest of the way was nice," Folk said.

The Shoremen had one last opportunity in the bottom of the ninth to find a comeback

victory. However, Folk quickly shut them down with a double play and a groundout. Folk finished the last three innings allowing just three hits and earning the win.

"I just pounded the zone with strikes and had solid defense behind me, and they weren't able to scratch anything together. It was also big only having to use one relief pitcher being that we had a game the previous day and a doubleheader the next day, so it was good to give other guys in the pen a rest day," Folk said.

The Blue Jays needed to

sustain their performance mindset as they headed into their doubleheader on Saturday.

In their first game against the Red Devils, the Blue Jays started out strong, as Smith singled and Bowman hit his first home run of the game to send both of them home in the second inning.

A few crucial base hits by the Red Devils off of junior starting pitcher Preston Betz, as well as a walk, gave Dickinson a 3-2 advantage in the top of the fourth. However, Bowman continued his strong outing, as he tied the game in the fifth with yet another home run.

Three runs in the top of the sixth gave Dickinson a 6-3 lead. The Hopkins offense came out swinging, as Clara led off the bottom of the sixth with a home run to left-center. Following was a single from Sacks, a double from Smith and a home run by Jaffe, giving Hopkins a 7-6 comeback lead.

Despite a Dickinson home run in the seventh to tie up the game at 7-7, junior pitcher Seamus Ryan-Johnson came in and had a three up, three down inning to keep the Red Devils from taking back the lead. The Blue Jays scored two more, and junior pitcher Sean McCracken kept the Red Devils scoreless in their

SEE BASEBALL, PAGE B10



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM

Senior lacrosse midfielder Joel Tinney was named First Team All-Big Ten.



The Johns Hopkins News-Letter Presents:

The  
*Commencement*  
**MAGAZINE**

Congratulations Class of 2018!





## Congratulations, Class of 2018!

Welcome to the Commencement Magazine. This magazine is the first of its kind, the brainchild of *The News-Letter* seniors as a way to commemorate our time at this University. The yearbook was discontinued in 2016, and we wanted to create something in its absence, something we could open up in five, 10, 20 years and look back on our time in college.

In case you've forgotten some of the big milestones, we've got you covered. This magazine was created by the Class of 2018, for the Class of 2018. It contains photos and recaps of the most important moments of each of our four years here.

Remember when Iggy Azalea performed during freshman year? Or when the men's lacrosse team made it to the Big Ten Conference for the first time? Or when Winter Storm Jonas gave us two wonderful snow days before the start of spring semester sophomore year?

We're the last class at Hopkins to have been in Baltimore during the Uprising after Freddie Gray's death. We pay tribute to him and to the activists of the Black Lives Matter movement.

After the 2016 election, there was a huge cultural shift on campus. Student activism grew, and we've highlighted a few of the biggest protests and demonstrations.

We spotlight a few of our amazing performing arts groups and our incredible sports teams. There is so much talent and skill at this University, and we wish we could have featured every performance, art show or game.

You'll also find our list of the Best of Hopkins. Modeled after the late *City Paper*'s "Best of Baltimore" issues, our list covers food, social life and academics. We hope it reflects your Hopkins experience and gives you a few laughs.

In the final few pages of the magazine, you'll find beautiful well-wishes from some of your parents and loved ones, who are so proud of everything you've accomplished at this school. They should be — Hopkins is hard, but we did it.

We made it through four years at Hopkins, four years of late nights in Brody, four years of wondering why we took that 9 a.m. class, four years of balancing our homework with our social lives and our extracurricular activities.

As students, we've often been critical of the University and its administration, and as well we should be. But we've also gotten a lot from Hopkins, whether that's knowing all the names of the amino acids or how to write a sestina. Many of the people we've met here will be our lifelong friends, and that can't be traded for anything.

We hope this magazine can help you look back on your Hopkins experience. If you keep it past this ceremony, we hope you'll look at it from time to time, and that it'll help you remember this University: the good, the bad and the in-between.

Mostly the good, though. That's what nostalgia is about, right?

As alumni, we'll never be too far away from Hopkins. Many of our friends will still be here. Our favorite professors will still be here. Our student groups will carry on. And if we ever want to check back in, *The News-Letter* will always be here to keep us in the loop.

— From the seniors at *The News-Letter*

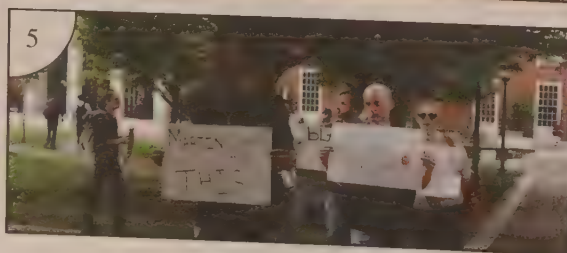
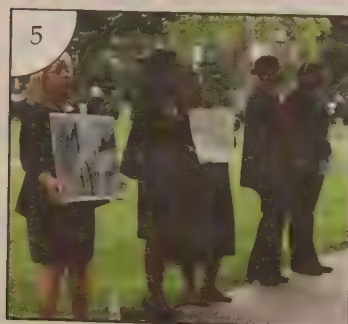
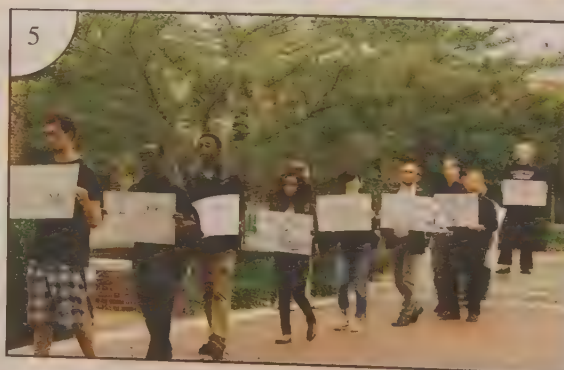
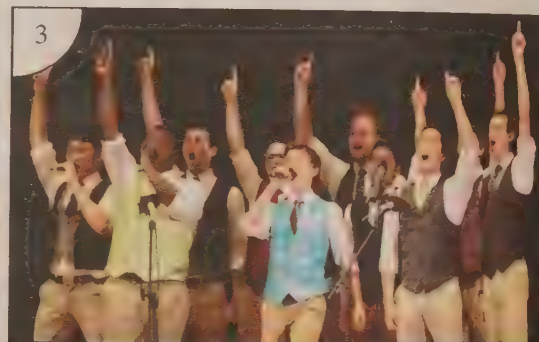


Commencement 2018



# 2014-2015: A look back at freshman year

When we arrived on campus in August, we were bright-eyed and excited to begin our college careers. Our first semester, we relaxed into covered grades as we navigated the work/life balance at Hopkins. We saw (or didn't see) Iggy Azalea in concert, we found our homes in student groups and we celebrated our first Lighting of the Quads. The football team had an undefeated season, and the lacrosse team played in the Big Ten Conference for the first time. Nelly performed at Spring Fair, and we quickly learned about the Chicken-on-a-Stick controversy. We participated in protests, we spent hours in the Fresh Food Cafe (FFC) and we changed our majors more times than we can count. It was the year that started it all.



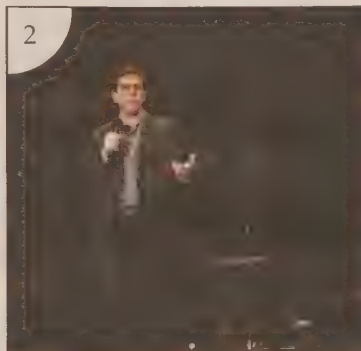
1) On Oct. 1 Bamboo Café opened in the Mattin Center, offering sushi, rice bowls and a selection of other Asian food.

2) All through the summer and orientation, Charles Street was closed, allowing students to cross haphazardly. As classes began, students became "Road Scholars" and looked both ways.

3) We enjoyed incredible songs from all of our talented a capella groups at their Orientation Show. Among over a dozen groups, the AllNighter's, the men's group, and the Mental Notes, the comedy group, blew us away.

4) Rapper Iggy Azalea performed at Pier Six on Sept. 25. After weeks of students trying to sell their tickets in the Class of 2018 Facebook page, she took to the stage with a decent amount of disappointment from the crowd. She was late and only performed for a few minutes.

5) The Black Student Union held a protest on Sept. 18 in response to the fatal shooting of Mike Brown, an African-American 18-year-old, by a police officer in August in Ferguson, Mo.



1) Hopkins students participated in the People's Climate March in New York City, with many representatives from the Students for Environmental Action in attendance.

2) Actor and author B.J. Novak delivered a stand-up comedy performance and discussed his career on Nov. 5, concluding this year's Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium.

3) For the second consecutive year, the football team finished off the season undefeated.

4) Hampdenfest 2014 featured toilet races, live music and a karaoke competition. Numerous vendors offered a wide range of food and drink, art, and jewelry.

5) What color is this dress? Is it white and gold? Is it blue and black? When a picture of this dress was posted online, it captivated our conversations for weeks. No one could agree.

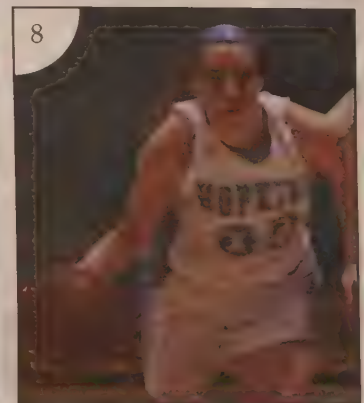
6) Men's track won their third straight Conference championship.

7) Lighting of the Quads brought fireworks and a taste of the holiday spirit to campus on Dec. 3. Everyone gathered on Keyser Quad for hot chocolate, music and a sense of community.

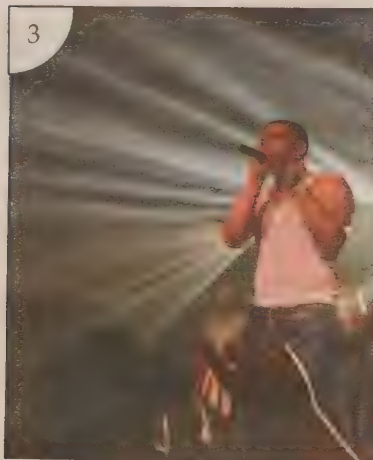
8) Women's basketball won against Washington College in February.



U.S. News and World Report ranked Hopkins 11th among 496 global universities for 2015.



## Commencement 2018



1) The Foreign Affairs Symposium hosted Brandon Stanton, founder of the *Humans of New York* Facebook page, on March 27.

2) Pizza Studio opened on Saint Paul Street between 32nd and 33rd in March, bringing pizza to the world of fast-casual dining.

3) Nelly headlined the Spring Fair concert, weeks after having been arrested for drug possession. That wouldn't stop him though. He brought energy and an early-2000s throwback to the Rec Center. It was definitely getting hot in there.

4) The next night, many students attended a second Spring Fair concert, for electronica artist Sweater Beats. He made Ram's Head feel more like a club than a concert venue.

5) This was the first year the Hopkins lacrosse team played in the Big Ten Conference. After a hard and tough season (which included beating Maryland for the now-infamous Wooden Crab) the Blue Jays brought home the Conference championship.

6) The University officially broke ground on the Olmstead lot on March 26 for the construction of the building that would eventually become 9 East. Our days of walking down to 25th and Charles were coming to an end.





# The Freddie Gray Case

In May of our freshman year Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old black Baltimorean, died while in the custody of the Baltimore Police Department (BPD).

Gray passed away from a severe spinal cord injury, one week after being arrested. On the morning of April 12, 2015 he ran from three officers on bike patrol after making eye contact with one of them. Officers found a knife on Gray's person, but it was disputed whether that justified the arrest.

A police van was called to transport Gray, who was put in handcuffs and leg irons. He was not secured with a seat belt, which was against a then-recently implemented BPD policy.

Gray fell to the floor of the van and asked for a medic. By the time the van arrived at the Western District police station, he was not breathing.

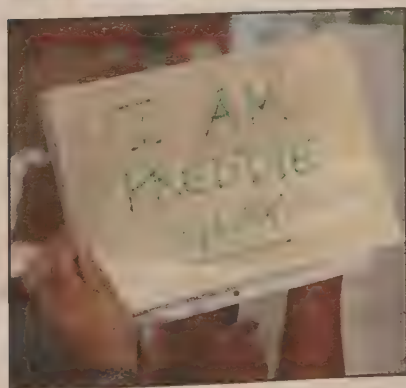
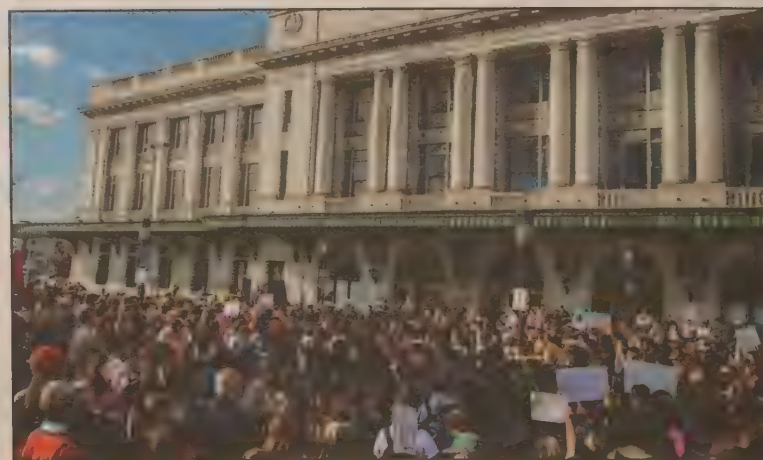
Peaceful demonstrations began soon after Gray's arrest and continued for weeks. More than 1,000 people, in-

cluding Hopkins students, faculty and staff, participated in a peaceful protest march from Penn Station to City Hall.

The protests that garnered national attention were those that turned violent on the day of Gray's funeral. A state of emergency was declared, and over 200 people were arrested. Hopkins also went into lockdown due to reports of non-affiliates on Campus.

Gray's death was ruled a homicide, and the six BPD officers involved in Gray's arrest were charged with crimes ranging from reckless endangerment to second-degree murder. Three officers were acquitted, and charges were dropped against the other three. All have been reinstated.

Baltimore City paid \$6.4 million to Gray's family as part of a civil settlement and entered into a consent decree with the U.S. Department of Justice to reform BPD policies and practices.



Commencement 2018



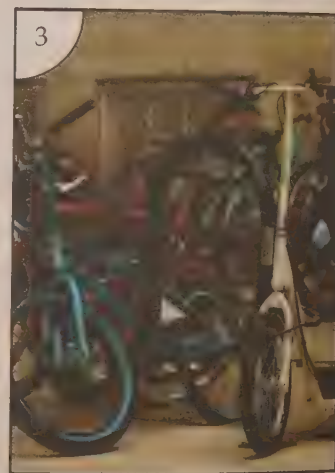
# 2015-2016: Our Sophomore Year

In our second year at Hopkins, we further cemented our place in our community and exercised our influence over the University. The Black Student Union put out a list of demands calling for greater support for black students on campus. Bo Z's Burgers opened in Charles Village, and the lacrosse players sped around on electric scooters. Comedian John Mulaney gave us a much needed break from schoolwork with a fantastic stand-up set. The Chainsmokers headlined the Spring Fair concert, held outdoors on the practice field. Most significantly (at least for some of us) we made top 10.



Hopkins moves up to 10th among global universities

"What a great moment for our University. It reflects the collective accomplishments of our entire community."  
— JEFFREY H. ARONSON,  
CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



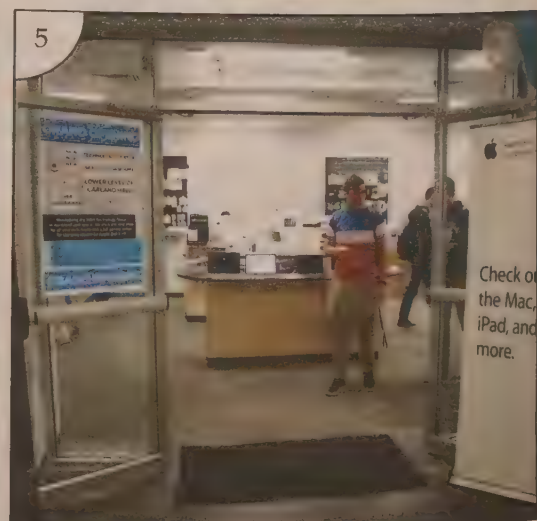
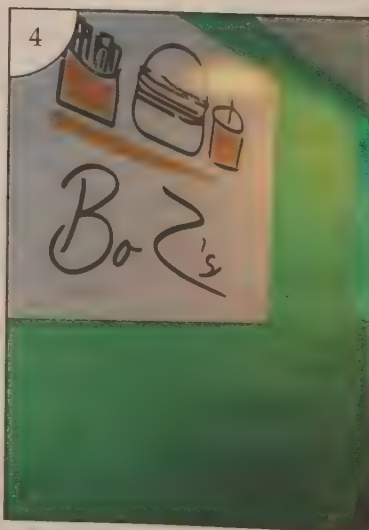
1) Baltimore-based writer D. Watkins discusses writing in the context of the black Baltimore community after the Baltimore Uprising in spring 2015.

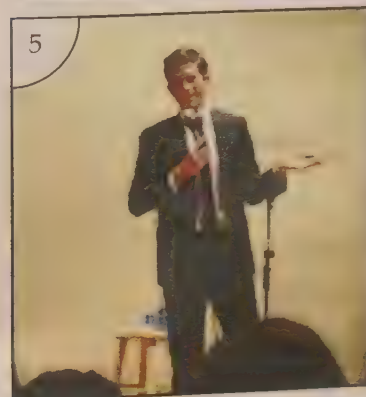
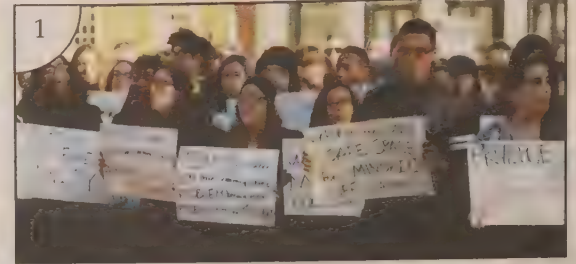
2) Real Food Hopkins is working again this year to provide students with locally sourced produce.

3) The lacrosse team buys slick new rides. Remember seeing them zip around campus?

4) Bo Z's Burgers now open in Charles Village: "I know the campus very well," David Key, owner of Bo Z's, said. "I know what students want. They want hot, fulfilling food."

5) The Johns Hopkins Technology Center opened its doors so that we can easily buy new tech when our laptops break.





"These top tenners, you'll all think I peed in my pants. This is a top 10 school; I can't be out here with water on my pants."

— JOHN MULANEY, COMEDIAN

1) Students led by the Black Student Union (BSU) presented a list of 10 demands to University President Ronald J. Daniels calling for greater support for black students on campus.

2) This protest led to the BSU Forum where top University administrators answered questions from the student body. Hopkins released its Roadmap on Diversity and Inclusion later this year.

3) Controversial attorney Alan Dershowitz faced student protest as an MSE Symposium speaker for his treatment of sexual assault survivors in court and for his views on Israel.

4) Students celebrate Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights.

5) John Mulaney brought some much needed laughs.

6) Course scheduling was such a pain before student-created *Semester.ly* helped organize our class schedules.

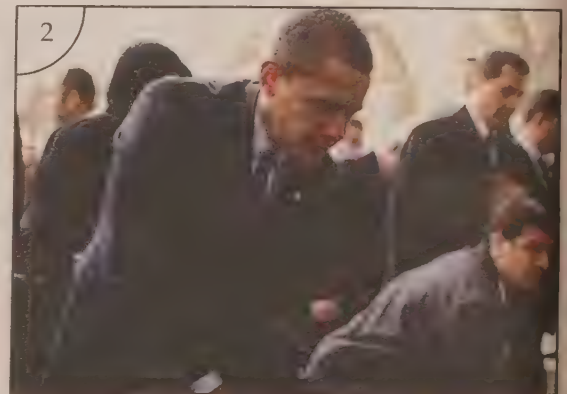


## Commencement 2018



“My opinion has no more weight than anyone else’s in this room. This is not about me. This is about us. This is about our rights.”

— EDWARD SNOWDEN,  
NSA WHISTLEBLOWER



1) Appearing from Moscow via Google Hangout, controversial whistleblower Edward Snowden spoke to a packed Shriver Hall as part of the Foreign Affairs Symposium.

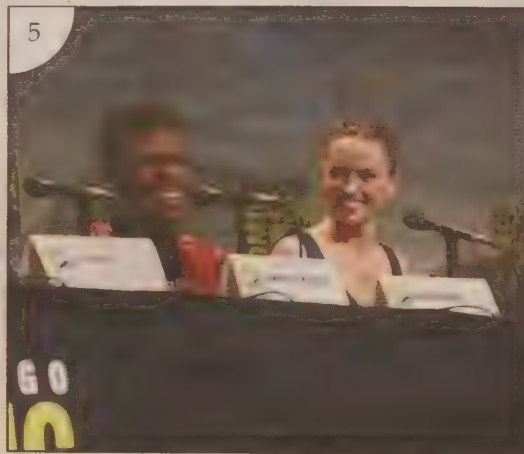
2) Former U.S. President Barack Obama spoke out against Islamophobia at the Islamic Society of Baltimore, which was originally founded by members of the Hopkins community. It was his first visit to a mosque in America.

3) For their Spring Cabaret, the Dunbar Baldwin Hughes Theatre Company performed a selection of songs from the hit musical *Hairspray*, which is set in Baltimore.

4) Winter Storm Jonas delayed the start of the second semester by two days. The blizzard brought an unprecedented 30 inches of snow to Baltimore.

5) The record-breaking *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* rebooted the beloved franchise for a new generation.

6) The University yearbook was discontinued after 126 years of publication.





1) Three individuals later claimed responsibility for stealing the Blue Jay statue's shield after Campus Safety and Security launched an investigation. The statue was also damaged two days before the shield was taken.

2) The Chainsmokers headlined the sold-out Spring Fair concert. The event was held outdoors on the practice field.

3) Spike Lee was chosen as the 2016 commencement speaker. His most recent film at the time, 2015's *Chi-Raq*, addressed gun control and gang violence in Chicago.

4) The Barnstormers packed the Swirnow Theater for two weekends with their energetic, large-scale production of *Legally Blonde The Musical*.

5) Beyoncé surprise released her sixth studio album, the groundbreaking visual album *Lemonade*, on Tidal and HBO.

6) The inaugural Light City Baltimore wowed attendees from across the City.

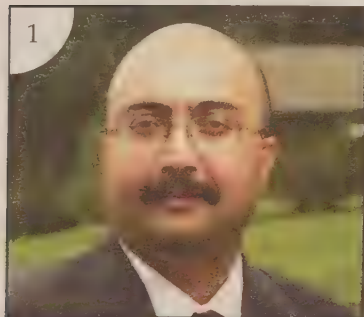
“[T]here is a whole global financial infrastructure that helps to support unprecedented levels of economic inequality.”

— NICOLAS JABKO,  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR,  
ON THE PANAMA PAPERS

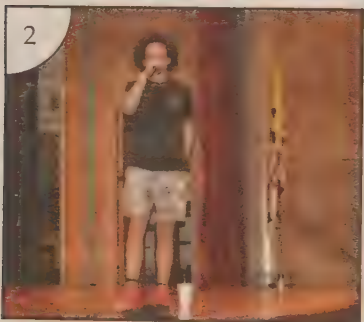
Commencement 2018



# 2016-2017: Junior Year



Change was afoot during the 2016-2017 academic year. We saw the world shift with the election of a new President, Donald Trump. Political activity surged on campus, as we staged demonstrations surrounding a diverse range of issues, including fossil fuel divestment, the Humanities Center, contract workers' rights and the Dakota Access Pipeline. Hopkins welcomed a new Provost, Sunil Kumar, and bid farewell to Ms. Gladys, the beloved Fresh Food Café (FFC) employee. Nine East 33rd opened its doors to its first round of residents, Bernie Sanders spoke, and we found solace and humor in the Hopkins meme page on Facebook.



"One of the most beautiful things about [BLM] is that we are forcing these public conversations about race and justice and equity, knowing that conversation alone is not enough."

— DERAY MCKESSON, ACTIVIST

1) Hopkins welcomed Sunil Kumar as the new Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.

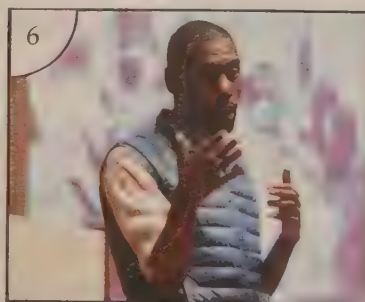
2) Students filled Shriver Hall on Thursday Sept. 8 to see alternative comedian, writer and actor Eric Andre begin the 2016 Milton S. Eisenhower (MSE) Symposium. Known for *The Eric Andre Show* on Adult Swim, along with acting credit on the show *Man Seeking Woman* on FXX, Andre's comedic style is characterized as absurdist and unconventional.

3) In celebration of some of its most accomplished female affiliates, the University held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new *Women of Hopkins* installation at the Mattin Center courtyard on Oct. 20.

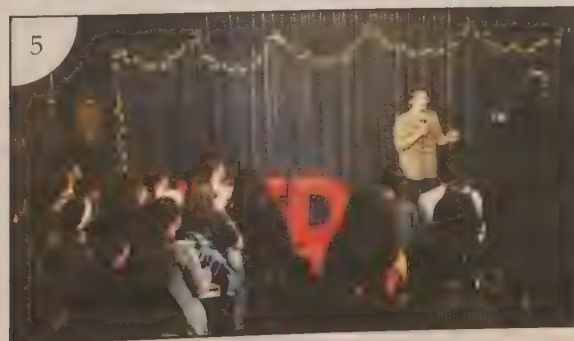
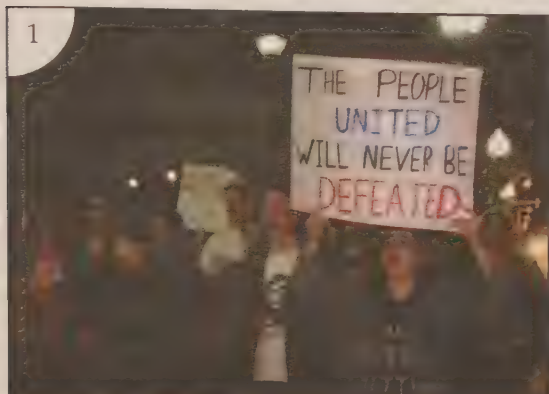
4) Hopkins students, faculty and staff gathered outside of the Mattin Center for a University-sponsored silent demonstration in support of the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement on Friday, Oct. 7. Around 400 demonstrators lined up along the sidewalk of N. Charles Street and held hands in solidarity with black victims of police violence.

5) Nine East 33rd, also known as "The New Building," first opened its doors to student residents on Aug. 21.

6) DeRay Mckesson, an activist and Baltimore public schools administrator known for his leadership within the BLM movement, offered suggestions for furthering the movement at the MSE Symposium on Oct. 20.



Commencement 2018



1) More than 100 Hopkins students gathered on the Beach to protest Donald J. Trump's victory in the Nov. 8 presidential election. The demonstration titled "Hopkins Against Hate" was organized by 20 student groups, including the Black Student Union, Hopkins Feminists and Students for a Democratic Society.

2) Supporters of the Humanities Center (HC) gathered in Levering Courtyard to protest its potential closure. Graduate students and professors voiced their concerns and placed the HC demonstration in the context of other student movements around the world.

3) On Nov. 17 Senator Bernie Sanders spoke at an event co-sponsored by the Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium and the Foreign Affairs Symposium. He read from his book, *Our Revolution*, and answered questions from the audience.

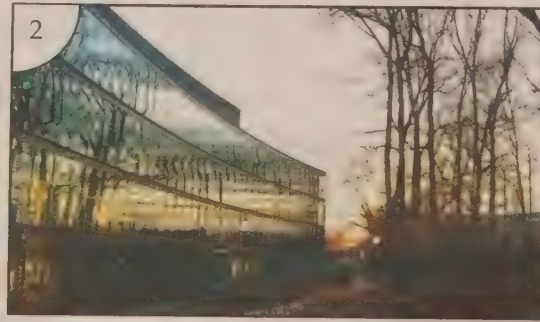
4) IDEAL at JHU, a student organization that promotes both non-partisan and bipartisan civic engagement on campus, encouraged students to register to vote in the national election with these long-sleeved shirts.

5) TEDxJHU, a student-run organization modeled after the TEDx conferences, held a salon event on Nov. 3 in Bamboo Café. The event was titled "What They Didn't Tell You at Orientation."

6) The Hopkins women's soccer team entered the NCAA D-III Tournament with momentum on their side after emerging triumphant in the Centennial Conference Championship. It was their 12th straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

"Do you want change?  
No one's going to give  
it to you. That's what  
Frederick Douglas said.  
You want change? You  
gotta fight for change."  
— BERNIE SANDERS,  
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Commencement 2018



“I think the emotional register of this election was higher and temperatures ran hotter.”

— DANIEL SCHLOZMAN,  
ASST. PROFESSOR OF  
POLITICAL SCIENCE



1) Donald J. Trump was sworn in as the 45th President of the United States of America on Friday, Jan. 20. Many attended the inauguration ceremony to celebrate Trump’s presidency, while others turned out in droves to protest what they considered harmful policy and rhetoric.

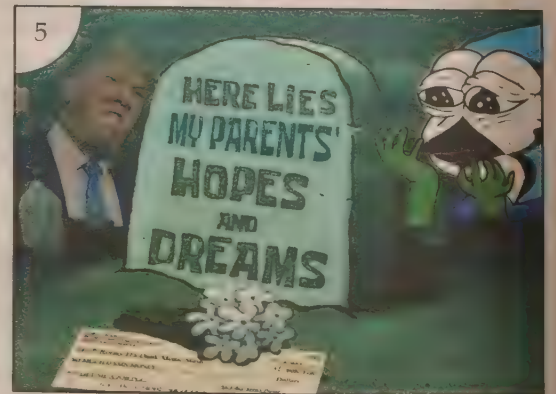
2) The Undergraduate Teaching Laboratories was awarded platinum certification from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. The LEED program, administered by the U.S. Green Building Council, includes a point system that rates the environmental impact of buildings as Certified, Silver, Gold or Platinum.

3) President Donald Trump’s executive order banning citizens from seven predominantly Muslim countries had a direct effect on the Hopkins community. Many Hopkins students travelled to BWI to protest the ban.

4) On Jan. 21, the day after President Trump’s inauguration, millions of Americans took to the streets for the largest single-day demonstration in U.S. history: The Women’s March.

5) With over 4,000 members, the Facebook group “Hopkins Memes for My Lost Hopes and Dreams” serves as an online destination for students to post Hopkins-related memes. Created in December 2016, the page has been the location of commiseration and school pride, with students even fighting in a “meme war” against a similar page from the Washington University in St. Louis.

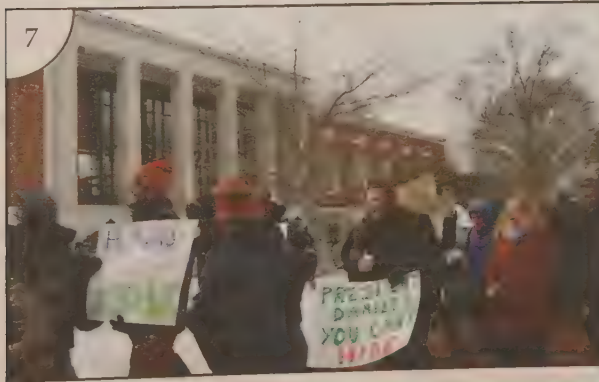
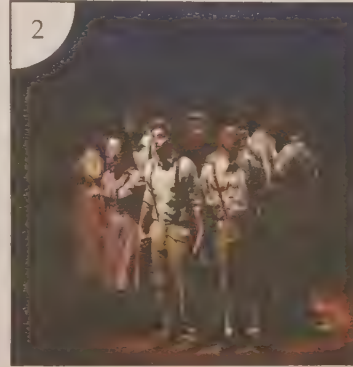
6) In 1951 Hopkins Hospital took cervical cancer cells from Henrietta Lacks, a black Baltimore resident, and developed the HeLa cell line. Her cells contributed to major medical discoveries, including the development of the polio vaccine. Neither Henrietta nor her family gave the Hospital permission to use her cells at the time. In February, some members of the Lacks family said they would sue the Hospital. In April, HBO released a film about Henrietta called, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, starring Oprah.





"Should Johns Hopkins divest from fossil fuels? And if we are going to divest, how should we do it?"

— PAUL FERRARO,  
BLOOMBERG DISTINGUISHED  
PROFESSOR OF BUSINESS  
AND ENGINEERING



1) At the 2017 NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships, the men's and women's swim teams racked up a number of individual All-American honors.

2) The JHU Barnstormers performed *Spring Awakening* for their annual spring musical. The show is about a group of teenagers attempting to navigate their way around the daunting questions surrounding sex, love, faith and life.

3) Refuel Our Future, a student activist group, had been pressuring the University for six years to divest its endowment from fossil fuels. Refuel held several protests throughout the 16-17 school year to pressure the Board of Trustees to make a decision.

4) The new Homewood Student Affairs Branding Guidelines outraged many student groups. The guidelines dictate that the names and logos of student organizations cannot imply the University's endorsement.

5) Hopkins alumna Taylor Nolan was a contestant on the popular reality television show *The Bachelor*.

6) Remington, a neighborhood south of the Homewood Campus, has undergone significant development in recent years, leading some residents to worry about how gentrification, and the presence of the University, is impacting the community.

7) The Student-Labor Action Coalition staged several rallies and protests to advocate for job security and benefits for University security guards and dining workers.

8) The Ladybirds dance troupe pulled out all the stops in their Spring Showcase in April.

Commencement 2018



## 2017-2018: Our Final Year

Welcome to senior year. Riding last year's wave of student activism, we participated in a number of protests and fundraisers. We grieved over the loss of both PJ's Pub and The Schnapp Shop. Ohio Governor John Kasich spoke, and comedian Hasan Minhaj closed out this year's Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium. Women's volleyball had an 18-game winning streak this year. We partied at Spring Fair, with this year's concert headlined by Earl Sweatshirt and Krewella. After four years of ups and downs, hard work and success, we made it, and our final year was definitely one to remember.



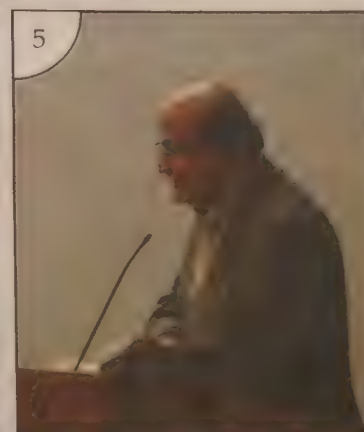
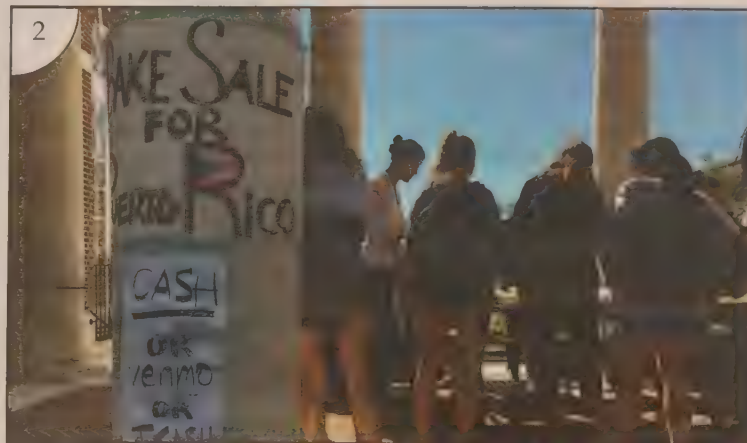
1) Over the summer, a partial solar eclipse passed by Baltimore, casting a shadow over the Homewood Campus until the sun returned an hour later. Students, faculty and staff gathered on the beach to watch the eclipse.

2) After the devastating Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico, students from the island organized a bake sale to raise money for the relief effort.

3) After serving the community for decades, PJ's Pub and the Charles Village Schnapp Shop both closed their doors over the summer. They will be sorely missed.

4) In August, Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh removed the Confederate monuments from the City, one of which was located just off Campus on Art Museum Drive. A local Baltimore artist put the statue "Madre Luz" where Confederate Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson previously stood.

5) Internationally acclaimed author Salman Rushdie read from his recently published book, *The Golden House*, to a packed room of Hopkins literature aficionados.





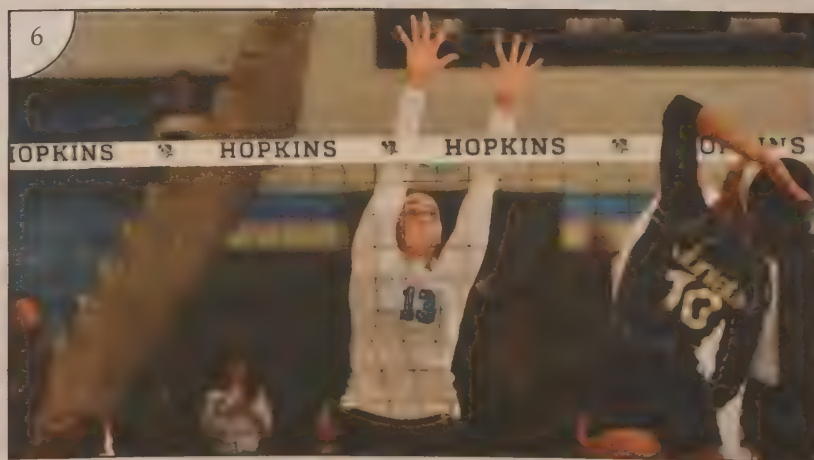
1) Ohio Governor John Kasich spoke to students about the importance of bridging the partisan divide. After his talk he answered questions from the audience.

Student theater groups, The Barnstormers (2) and Witness Theater (3) produced their fall shows in the Mattin Center's Swirnow Theater.

4) Comedian Hasan Minhaj used humor to tackle depressing current events to close the end of this year's Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium.

5) The *Baltimore City Paper*, founded by Hopkins alumni, published its last issue in November after 40 years of publication. Another local publication, the *Baltimore Beat*, also closed only a few months after its first issue.

6) The women's volleyball team had an incredible 18-game win streak in this season.



## Commencement 2018



1) On Jan. 20 students joined a city-wide protest outside City Hall for the first anniversary of the Women's March.

2) The Humanities Center, which the administration ultimately decided not to close, had its name changed to the Department of Comparative Thought and Literature.

3) Students, staff and faculty joined a walkout protesting gun violence on March 15.

4) Following years of pressure from the student group Refuel Our Future, the University announced that it would divest its endowment from just thermal coal. Many students felt that this step did not go far enough.

5) The University announced that it intended to create a private police force. After strong backlash from vocal students and community members, Hopkins pulled its bill the Md. General Assembly and tabled the issue for a year.

6) The Foreign Affairs Symposium hosted a panel discussion on comedy and politics on February 22.



1) Studio North, a student organization that facilitates filmmaking, presented its 2018 Grand Premiere at the Parkway Theatre on April 25.

2) The Sheridan Libraries held the fifth annual Edible Book Festival on April 6, featuring dozens of literary cakes. This *Paddington* cake won Best in Show.

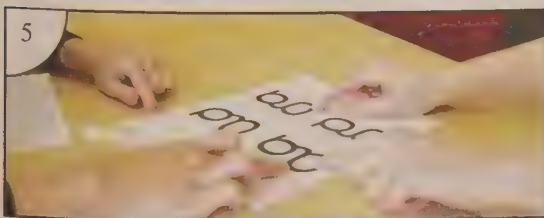
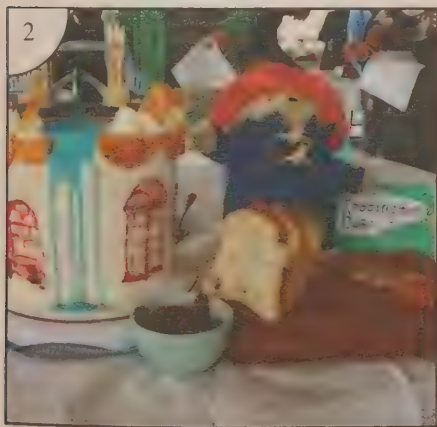
3) Government whistleblower and Maryland Senatorial candidate Chelsea Manning spoke at the Foreign Affairs Symposium on April 2.

4) On March 24 Hopkins students joined about 800,000 protesters at the March for Our Lives in Washington, D.C.

5) Hopkins student Kimberly Wong authors study that finds people have trouble identifying the way the letter "g" is written.

6) The men's lacrosse team secured a spot in the Big Ten Conference Tournament.

Rapper Earl Sweatshirt (7) and EDM duo Krewella (8) co-headlined this year's Spring Fair concert.



Commencement 2018



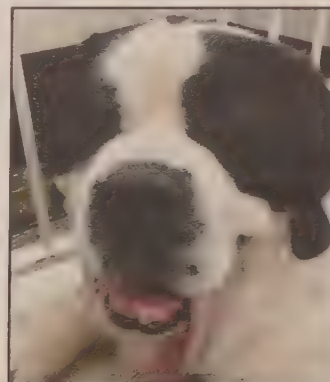
# The Best of Hopkins, by *The News-Letter's* Seniors

In the style of the late *City Paper*, we, the seniors of *The News-Letter*, wanted to highlight the best parts of our University. Although *City Paper's* "Best Of" issues tended to be more tongue-in-cheek, we're keeping our saltiest thoughts to ourselves in the spirit of selectively remembering the good parts of Hopkins. And so we bring you a non-comprehensive list of all the best parts of our four years here.



## Best Food on Campus: Free food brought to you by the Free Food Alerts

Last year, Hopkins Recycling brought us Free Food Alerts. Students could sign up to receive alerts via email and/or text message so they would know whenever an event had extra food. This cut down on food waste and fed a whole lot of hungry students.



## Best Dog on Campus: Amadeus

This sweet as heck doggo has always been there when we needed a snuggle or a slobbery lick. As a Saint Bernard, he's prone to toppling you over with his love, and we love that. Thanks Amadeus and his person for always hanging around Brody Terrace so that we can hang out during much needed study breaks. Your heart is as big as you are!

## Best University Idea: Partnering with Lyft

The Blue Jay Shuttle system partnered with the rideshare service Lyft to ensure that we would always have a safe way to get home at night. Students could use an app or call the Night Ride line, and if a shuttle was not available, a Lyft would be ordered for the student, free of charge.



## Best Noise Pollution: The "wait wait wait" walk sign

There's nothing like encountering the lovely hurdle of the "wait wait wait" sign when you're just trying to cross North Charles, already five minutes late to your class. Shout out to this sign for being completely unable to stop the hoard of jaywalkers scrambling across the street every morning.



## Best Memory Only Seniors Have: N. Charles Street Closure

Only the Class of 2018 remembers the beauty of a closed N. Charles Street. While the city added a southbound lane, we could blindly cross the street without looking both ways. There was no need to be a Road Scholar yet. Ah, simpler times.



## Best Class at Hopkins: The working class

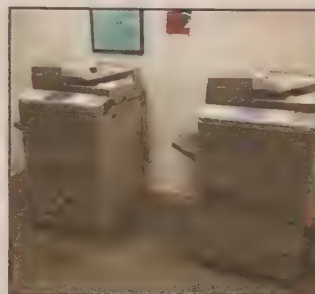
Take heed, beleaguered proletarian! Working people all over the world are coming together, united against the encroaching forces of global capital. Cast off your hair nets, your uniform caps, your aprons and fluorescent safety jackets. No more will you suffer under the yoke of outsourcing and subcontracting. Seize what is owed to you by those who would deprive you. Rise up!



### Best Burger: A Brody Cafe Veggie Burger

God bless the Brody Cafe baristas for offering such a tasty, affordable and healthy option on their menu.

This sandwich has always been the go-to quick and fulfilling meal during study breaks.



### Best Way to Appease Students: Free Printing

We've waited four years for the school to provide this service to us and we are thoroughly disappointed. Those \$0.07 per page really add up.

Let's get Hopkins back to top 10 and make this much needed change at this University. Maybe that'll stop all the student protests.

### Best Breakfast: Pete's Grille

Located on the corner of Greenmount Ave. and E. 32nd Street in the heart of Waverly, Pete's Grille offers exactly what we want from a breakfast diner: coffee and carbs to help us get through our day.

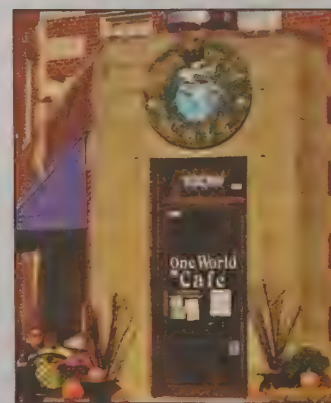
But seriously, get some of their home fries. They're fantastic.



### Best Vegetarian Food: One World Cafe

Located just north of campus across the street from the lacrosse field, One World is the best place to stop for all our vegetarian needs. From the "fakin' bacon" to the "tempeh reuben," One World is the best place to take your vegetarian friends.

Plus, they hold Bingo nights on the second Tuesday of every month.



### Best Asian Food: The Helmand

This was a tough pick as we considered other great spots for Asian cuisine like Khun Nine Thai and Indochine but we ultimately settled on the Helmand.

Owned by Qayum Karzai, the brother to the former president of Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai, the Helmand offers a wonderful selection of Afghani dishes. Be sure to check out the lamb with tomatoes or the aushak or "Afghan ravioli."



### Best Part of Hopkins: The People

We're not going to sugarcoat it. This school takes a toll on you, but we'd like to recognize the people who give you that knowing nod in Brody at 3 a.m. as you study/suffer together, the people who help you up after you slip on the rainy steps of the Breezeway and the people you are going to sorely miss after graduating.

The people here really are the best part of Hopkins. Late night chicken tenders were a close second, though.

Commencement 2018

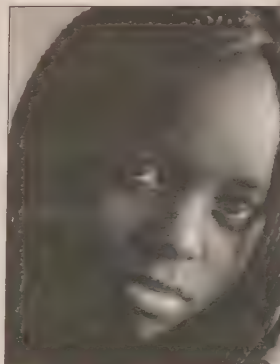
### Congratulations Amy!

It has been a joy watching you grow up and becoming an intelligent, dedicated, thoughtful and caring person. You are truly a blessing to us. We are very proud of you! Continue to believe in yourself. Your hard work will pay off. Baby you light up our world like nobody else.



With love,  
Mom, Dad, Charlie & Bell

To our darling daughter, Kaylynn Elizabeth,  
our special gift from God!



We are so very proud of the young woman you have become and the accomplishments you have obtained. It has been an amazing journey from your birth to the present. We love you always and forever! Congratulations on obtaining your College degree.

Mom and Dad!

### Congratulations Hannah E. Jones!

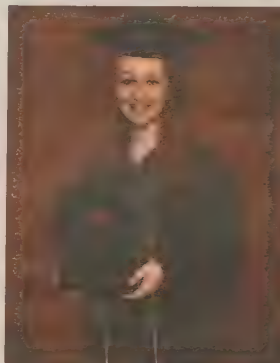


Dear Hannah,

You have a spark that endures and have always been determined to push yourself to accomplish whatever you put your mind to. Because of this, you have flourished and now your dreams are coming true! We are so proud of you! Best of luck at Univ of Colorado Denver!

Love,  
Mom and Dad

### Congratulations Nicole Pettas!



Our dearest Nicole,  
We are so proud of you, your accomplishments, and what you have yet to achieve.

"Hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known."

We love you to the moon and back,  
Mom and Dad

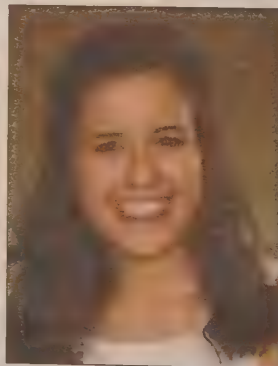
KEEP UP WITH  
HOPKINS  
NEWS AFTER  
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WWW.JHUNEWSLetter.COM

arts and service groups

DIVA PAREKH  
Copy Editor

organizations and non-  
community partners  
according to Grant, se  
organizations  
switch too fre



### ELIZABETH

Just four short years ago, you  
flew away from our nest to  
make new Blue Jay friends.

You found success  
academically, athletically, and  
musically, charming everyone  
with your sweet smile and  
generous heart. We are so  
incredibly proud of you!

### CONGRATULATIONS

as you soar to new heights.

We love you so much!  
Mom, Dad, and Timothy



*Congratulations Rohith Bethanabotla!*

Dear Rohith,  
We are so proud of your accomplishments at JHU! It has been an awesome journey watching you grow from a college freshman teen into an excellent, grounded and accomplished young man stepping out as an Engineering graduate. Your hard work and dedication made it happen! Wish you the very best for the exciting future and journeys ahead of you. Congratulations!

Love, Mom, Dad and Rahul



*Congratulations Morgan Victoria Balster!!*

We have loved watching you grow up into the smart, beautiful, caring young woman that you are. It has been our delight to be a part of your defining moments, silly fun and many accomplishments. We are so proud of you and wish you much success as you take your next steps.

Love,  
Mom, Dad & Heather



*Congratulations William Anderson!*

Dear William,

Congratulations on your many accomplishments. We are incredibly proud of you as you graduate from Johns Hopkins University!

All our love,  
Mom and Dad



*Congratulations Sam!*

We are so proud of you. We hope today will be one you always remember with fondness for the institution and gratitude for the time you spent here. We hope the friends made at Hopkins will be a base for connections and growth across many miles and many years. We are excited to see where you will travel across space and time going forward.

With love,  
Mom and Dad



*To Ben Ramsay, our Superstar son, brother, nephew, cousin, and grandson:*

We are so very proud and excited for you as you graduate from college and begin the next phase of your life. You have so much ahead of you to enjoy!

Lots of love and Mazel Tov,  
Mom, Dad, Jon, Rich, Steve, Dede, Norm, Emily, Sarah, Jared, and Gigi & Grandpa



*Congratulations Catherine Palmer!*

Dear Catherine,

Congratulations! You did it! We are very proud of you. Now on to your next adventure!

Love,  
Mom and Dad



Congratulations  
Weilin,  
Your  
accomplishments  
inside and  
outside the  
classroom  
in the past  
four years  
will propel  
you to greater  
achievements  
on the road  
ahead.

Love,  
Mommy, Baba,  
and Manwei



## *Congratulations Gillian Lelchuk!*

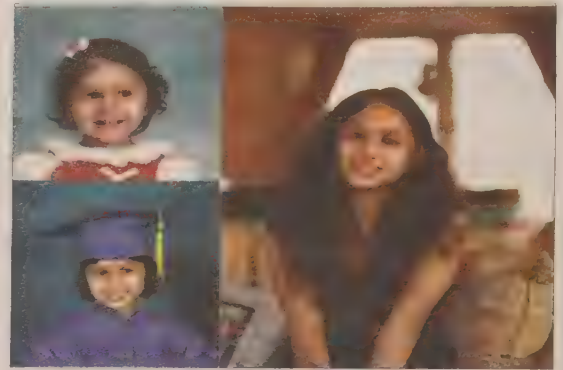


Dear Gillian,

We are so proud of everything you have accomplished. It has been a pleasure and an honor to watch you grow into an intelligent, brave, genuine, funny, curious, beautiful young woman. We know that you will tell your stories with the honesty and grace that are a hallmark of everything you create. You inspire us every day and we can't wait to see what you do in the days, months, and years to come.

"Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the things you can think up if only you try!" — Dr. Seuss

We love you,  
Mom, Dad, and Natasha



## *Congratulations Mallika Iyer!*

Mallika,

What a journey it's been from childhood to college! What a long way you've come since kindergarten graduation! You worked incredibly hard and availed of the resources and opportunities available to you at Johns Hopkins. We couldn't be prouder of you and of your ac-

complishments! You have blossomed into a beautiful, smart and confident young woman ready to take on the world. We wish you continued success as you pursue your dreams and embark on new adventures!

Love,  
Mommy, Daddy & Rasika

## *Congratulations John William Hughes!*



Dear Wil,

Congratulations! Here you are, continuing to make us proud. You've grown into such an amazing young man, and there's no doubt in our minds that you will continue to soar to new heights following this huge day. Fly like an Eagle Wil, and NEVER stop "dreaming dreams no mortals ever dared to dream before".

Lots of Love,  
Mom and Dad



## *Congratulations Sabrina Chen!*

Dear Sabrina,

You cried for months when I tried to drop you off at preschool. Dad said there's no law that says you have to go to preschool. Always the practical guy! Well that practical guy & I cried when we dropped you off at Hopkins.

Today when we look at how strong & independent you are, and yet how warm & caring you are, we find ourselves so incredibly proud.

Who knew that little girl would love school so much!

With all our love,  
Mom, Dad, and Caitlyn

*Commencement 2018*



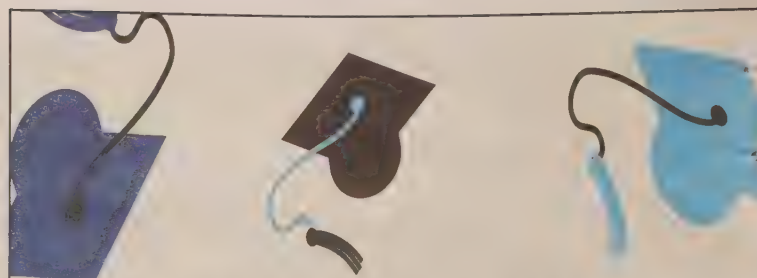
### *Congratulations Kellie Hunn!*

Dear Kellie,

You have always cared about the world, from children of Majuro to refugees of Myanmar. You "Embraced the Yes", knowing Hopkins was the place to nurture your passion. You have studied many hours, been immersed in nationally significant events, made precious memories with friends, grown your passion for the world, and become bilingual. You set

your sights on a dual major, never looking back. Study abroad and international conferences deepened your appreciation of other cultures. The way you embrace the world is inspiring. We admire you, love you, and look forward to your next adventure!

Love, Mommy, Daddy, and  
Dayton



# CONGRATS!

## CLASS OF 2018

To all of our RAs and student staff, congratulations on this great accomplishment. We are excited to see what you all do next!

**"Wherever you go, there you are"**

With Love, Office of Residential Life



# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2018!

Barbara Woodard  
James H. Woodard Dean  
Primary School of Arts and Sciences

U. "E" Colson  
Barbara T. Wood Dean  
Mining School of Engineering



JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY



**REMEMBER  
MAKING THIS PHOTO!**  
Watch the  
time-lapse video  
[bit.ly/jhu2018](http://bit.ly/jhu2018)

Commencement 2018

May 24, 2018

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

# 25



# JOHNS HOPKINS

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



# CONGRATULATIONS!

## WELCOME TO OUR WORLDWIDE ALUMNI FAMILY


Go **HOP**  
ONLINE


ONLINE NETWORKING EXCLUSIVELY  
FOR JHU ALUMNI AND STUDENTS

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 [THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY](http://THEJOHNSHOPKINSUNIVERSITY)



# JOHNS HOPKINS

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Dear fellow Johns Hopkins graduate,

Congratulations on your graduation and welcome to the Johns Hopkins worldwide alumni family! Now let me introduce you to the next phase of your Hopkins connection.

You chose Johns Hopkins for the opportunity to flourish in a university community with a great diversity of experiences. Your university community extends beyond the campus to a worldwide network. **Stay engaged and increase your personal and professional networks.** You can access those networks both online and in-person.

**Sign up for GoHopOnline.com**, our exclusive alumni-networking platform, if you haven't already. That's where fellow alumni find job leads—and each other. It also provides you an opportunity to give back by signing up to mentor the students following you. **Follow us on our social media feeds** and keep your contact information updated to be sure you receive the latest alumni association and university news. Have an update to share? **Visit [alumni.jhu.edu](http://alumni.jhu.edu) and submit a Class Note** to Johns Hopkins Magazine to let everyone know what you've been up to.

Graduates in the region, across the country, and around the world **meet for affinity, regional, and social networking events.** From alumni weekends and cultural events to industry panels and volunteer experiences, the Alumni Association offers an opportunity for you. Affinity groups also span the country and the globe through online connections and provide another avenue for you to become engaged.

You've heard the saying: you are only as good as the company you keep. **The Alumni Association's goal is to keep you connected with each other and the University as you continue through life's journey.** Indeed, we hope to tap your skills. From social media ambassadors to event speakers to Alumni Council leaders and opportunities in between, we want to engage you at every stage of life to keep our alumni community informed, relevant, and dynamic.

Congratulations again, and let's get started on your new Hopkins journey!

David P. Yaffe, A&S '74  
President, Alumni Council  
The Johns Hopkins Alumni Association



## Center for Social Concern

The Unsung Hero Award: Reah Vasilakopoulos

The Urban Health Award: Divya Korada

The Baltimore Award: Group: Habitat for Humanity Individual: Angad Uppal

The Urban Education Award: Art Brigade

25th Anniversary Award: Kaetlyn Bernal, Anwesha Dubey, Joe Falco, Marcela

Sierra-Arce, Grant Welby, Eileen Yu, Jessa Wais, and Harsh Wadhwa

Civic Leader Award: Anthony Boutros

## Office of Multicultural Affairs

The Exemplary Leadership Award: Elaine Asare

The Chester Wickwire Diversity Award: Jo Jo Castellanos and Juliet Villegas

The "Greater Baltimore Community" Service Award: Kaetlyn Bernal

The "Owens-Hall-Bilgrave" Award: Erica Lee

## Student Leadership & Involvement

The Blue Jay Pride Award: Isabella Altherr

The Outstanding Student Program Award: TEDxJHU

## Dean of Student Life

The Christopher B. Elser Prizes: Bryan Gustafson and George Hseeh

The Belle and Herman Hammerman Award: Kayla Ghanous

The David G. Sandberg Award for Campus Leadership: Della Xu

The Christopher J. Pinto Memorial Award: Nevena Marinković

The Dean of Student Life Achievement Awards: Anna Du, Julia Duvall,

Haroon Ghori, and Kush Mansuria

The Alexander K. Barton Cup: Anwesha Dubey

## Senior Class Council

The Gilman Cup: Abby Neyenhouse

The Homewood Cup: Alexandre Kwon

The Homewood Award: Lambda Epsilon Mu

The Old Gold and Sable Award: Tom Fekete

## Student Government Association

The Staff Excellence Award for Leadership: Paul Binkley

The Student Excellence Award for Leadership: Anthony Boutros

The George E. Owen Teaching Award: Kristin Cook-Gailloud

The Emerging Leaders Award: Corina Zisman

**LGBTQ Life congratulates our community's graduates, and sends a special thanks to those who participated in Lavender Celebration!**

Samuel Allen

Monika Borkovic

Christian Cholish

Kailyn Fiocca

Sandra Gomez Romero

Demitre Gweh

Willa Hughes

Alizay Jalisi

Hailey Jordan

Gillian Lelchuk

Nevena Marinkovic

Gale McFarlane

Tony Melo

Claudia Perez

Kendall Reitz

Indigo Rose

Max White

Zezhou Zhao



JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY

Homewood Student Affairs  
LGBTQ Life



# The Career Center stays with you after JHU.

**Know where  
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JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY

Homewood Student Affairs  
Career Center

ON BEHALF OF EDGAR AND THE INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM

## *Congratulations*

TO OUR 2017/2018 GRADUATES

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY



INTERNATIONAL  
STUDIES



# Congratulations to the Graduating Fraternity and Sorority Members of the

## CLASS OF 2018

Maria Adair	Melanie Capruso	Thomas Fiorelli	Cara Horsfield	Ivory Loh	Paulina Parsons	Jihae Snyder
Maya Adams	Stephanie Carr	Kaitlin Fisxher	Hallie Horvath	Annelise Long	Aneesh PatankarFrishan	Wooyang Son
Roshni Ahmed	Michael Carter	Jennifer Flournoy	Alexander Hsiao	Justin Lopez	Paulo	Berkeley Song
Anand Ahuja	Ryan Cary	Lauren Fogelman	Michelle Hung	Jasmine Loce	Carley Petrone	Helen Song
Cynthia Alstein	Chase Cecora	Eyal Foni	Kellie Hunn	Alexandra Lina	Danielle Pitkoff	Natalia Sonsin-Diaz
Amna Ali	Eric Chan	Samuel Fossum	Rachel Huselid	Alexander Mabie	Madalyn Polen	Tatiana Sorenson
Trevor Allen	Diya Chandra	Madison Foster	Caroline Hylton	Ian Maddox	Lauren Pomerantz	Ian Stark
Kwame Alson	Sanjana Chandrasekar	Serena Frechter	Samantha Igo	Sharon Maguire	Morgan Pothsat	Christopher Stauch
Enkhzaya Amgaabaatar	Sophia Chang	Benjamin Gaal	Karina Ikeda	Tairo Makoni	John Quinn	Emily Stearns
Soobin An	Tucker Chapin	Sean Galvin	Samuel Jackson	Nicholas Marinelli	Catherine Quiroz	Annaka Stoeckel
Anisha Anand	Meenakshi Chatrathi	Pranathi Ganni	Danielle Jacobson	Katherine Marks	Surya Ram	Eleanor Strauss
Nicholas Arango	Adrija Chaturvedi	Evan Garber	Zachary Jacobson	Preston Marshall	Eileen Ramirez	Emily Su
Elaine Asare	Anyu Chen	Piscilla Garza	Luiz Henrique Jannuzzi	Christopher Martin	Emily Ramos	Lilly Su
Ellen Ashford	Brian Chen	Gabrielle Gauthier	Connor Johnson	Clarissa Martin	Aneeka Rathnayake	Adrian Suarez
Adrian Au	James Chen	Olivia Gebhardt	Emily Johnson	Jorge Martin	Derek Reitz	James Sullivan
Jennifer Aufill	Victoria Chen	Elizabeth Gee	Jasmin Johnson	Leila Mashouf	Kendall Reitz	Amanda Sun
Melissa Austin	Sara Chishti	Jazmin Gelbart	Shanisa Johnson	Andrew Masucci	Mariana Rincon Caicedo	Natasha Suri
Karla Bachiller	Evelyn Chiu	Arpan Ghosh	Shaowen Ju	Arjun Mathur	Anna Rittenburg	Nathaniel Swyer
Grace Baek	Sherry Chiu	Dayna Gillette	Lillian Kairis	Kelly McBride	Alexander Rivera	Preincess Sutherland
Sydney Baker	Michelle Cho	Joan Golding	Milly Kamicar	Neil McCarter	Victoria Roberts	Daniel Tabas
Karen Baldwin	Christopher Choi	Jeffrey Goldsmith	Katherine Kaminski	Brian McConnell	Naomi Rodgers	Sharmila Tamby
Rachel Bang	Amanda Chow	Isabelle Goldstein	Jeremy Kaner	Meghan McDermott	Monica	Mieraf Teka
Lillian Barany	Argentina Chrappa	Gina Gonzales	Jessica Kang	Gale McFarlane	Rodriguez-Fernandez	Sameer Thakker
Kali Barnes	Carolina Chu	Mya Goodbee	Tinashe Kanonuhwa	Sarah McKeown	Alexandra Rogers	Chenghao Tian
Simon Barnett	Tiffany Chu	Avi Gordon	Kiara Kaylor	Alexandra McManus	Eduardo Romo	Andrew Tomaini
Daniela Barrio	Josephine Chun	Anders Gould	Samuel Kerans	Anuj Mehndiratta	Frances Rooney	Malini Valliath
Alison Bartkowsky	Alexander Cohen	Victoria Gramuglia	Meera Kesavan	Yevgeniya Miglo	Jonah Rosas	Casey Van Slyke
Julia Bateh	Lindsey Cohen	Lauren Granata	Omar Khatib	Jesse Miller	Jessica Rosen	Rachel Vazquez
Devyn Bell	Andrew Colombo	Ryan Greenwald	Ashley Kim	Bailey Monaco	Lucas Rosen	Andrew Victor
Emily Bell	Kiersten Colotti	Caroline Greydak	Christina Kim	Amy Monasterio	Melissa Rosen	Juliet Villegas
Mia Berman	Courtney Colwell	Mary Gronkiewicz	Chung Won Kim	Rachel Mueller	Sarah Rosenberg	Grace von Ohlen
Kaetlyn Bernal	Alexander Conklin	Katherine Gross	Minji Kim	Michael Munday	Hayden Rosenthal	Frank Waggoner
Joshua Bertalotto	Wase Coomer	Elizabeth Gudgel	Patricia Kim	Gregory Munilla	Theodore Rosenthal	Madison Wahl
Alexandra Besette	Camille Corbett	Georgios Gulino	Young Hun Kim	Alberto Muniz	Anisette Ruda	Eric Walker
Radha Bhatnagar	Hannah Cowley	Poonam Gupta	Caroline King	Rodriguez	Perry Rudolph	Judy Wang
Rohith Bhethanabotla	Kathryn Cummings	Neyamat Gurbans Singh	Christopher King	Sophia Murphy	Matthew Saltzman	Shirley Wang
Rachel Biderman	Charles Crepy D'Orleans	Rishab Gurnani	Rebekah Kirkwood	Jake Myara	Michelle Santangelo	Abifail Weiland
Katelyn Billings	Karis D'Alessandro	Bryan Gustafson	Bess Bitzmiller	Curtis Myers	Raphael Santore	David Weiner-Light
Tara Blair	Anna Devon-Sand	Melanie Habiby	Alex Klyuev	Jennie Nadel	Christopher Schertz	Christopher Wend
Bridgette Bolshem	Jacob Deyell	Cynthia Hadler	Elizabeth Konopacki	Kasthuri Nair	Julia Scherzer	Anna Wesche
Quintin Borgersen	Lena Diprozoto	Amy Hallowell	Matthew Kosarek	Jacqueline Neber	Courtney Schmitt	Preston Wesswlls
Laura Bou Delgado	Aliya Doctor	Lance Hammond	Rachel Krieger	Ashley Newsum	Sofia Schoenberg	Elanor West
Amy Boulter	Sydney Doman	Hayley Hanson	Patryk Krzesaj	Dana Schilman	Dana Schilman	Taliah West
Marisa Brand	Margaret Donahue	Lindsay Harris	Vaneesa Ku	Raphael	Zoe Scurletis	Alice White
Nicole Braun	Alexander Donovan	Amy He	Monica Larsen	Norman-Tehazas	Dane Sehnert	Brooke Willard
David Brookhart	Hayley Dott	Conor Hehir	Tiffany Lee	Malen Nousari	Christina Selby	John Wilson
Alisa Brown	Ahmed Elhassan	Greta Helvie	Erica Lee	Vishaan Nursey	Samantha Sender	Sarah Wolfe
Isabelle Brown	Aura Elias	Keonte Henson	Robert Lee	Elsa Olson	Ria Shah	Athena Wong
Leslie Bruni Quan Bui	Michelle Engelhard	Emily Herman	Sydney Lerner	Catherine Orlando	Rachel Shavel	Thomas Wyatt
Bratyusha Bujimalia	Julia Eubank	Dimitri Herr	Gregory Levine	Erin Paik	William Shefelman	Michelle Yang
Thomas Burke	Arthur Evanson	Monica Herrera	Marissa Licursi	Sabrina Palazzolo	Christie Shen	Molly Young
Brett Caggiano	Sina Fahima Hanzaei	Andrew Hilliday	Gabrielle Liflander	Emily Palmer	Woei Shieh	Sarah Zappone
Francesca Cali	Victoria Fang	John Holmes	Yat Shing Jacob Lin	Tory Palmer	John Shin	Adriano Zarzur
Rachel Callahan	Jacqueline Fedida	Brandon Hong-Dominguez	Kenny Ling	Oriana Pando	Sherry Simkovic	Isabella Zellerbach
Rebecca Camacho	Regina Ferrara	Linda Horn	Katherine Link	Jonathan Paris	Samantha Smart	Lauren Zingaro
Anthony Campanile	Marissa Ferreyros	Rachel Horn	Emilia Logan	Mingi Park	Jonathan Smith	Alessandra Zito

Best Wishes on your New Adventures!  
-Calvin & Tara



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Fraternity and Sorority Life

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## Congratulations Class of 2018!



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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2018!

